

Home

An Argus Specialist Publication

Computing WEEKLY

No. 62
May 15-21, 1984

45p

FREE

screen planner
for BBC and
Electron

FREE

competition:
scores of
games from

S&C DRAGON

must be won

Software

reviews for:
Commodore 64,
Spectrum, BBC,
Electron, TI,
Dragon, Sord

Great games to
type in for VIC-20,
Spectrum,
BBC/Electron
and Texas



Learning's fun
with our CBM 64
listing

Special report:
the new micro in
the High Streets

PLUS
software charts,
news, letters...



Micro show goes monthly

BBC TV is to screen a monthly computer magazine, hosted by Ian McNaught-Davis.

The idea was prompted by the success of the Micro Live show in October which was viewed by about 1.3m people, good for a Sunday morning.

No name has yet been chosen for the series, but it will be screened by BBC2 in the early evening on weekdays.

But first there will be a follow-up to Micro Live, a one-hour show on June 24 on BBC1 at 11.30am.

Among the features will be the announcement of the winners of a software competition for schools and colleges, launched on the earlier show by the Information Technology Minister Kenneth
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QL is here ...at last

Sinclair Research delivered the first batch of QL micros in style — by car.

One of the lucky recipients was John Smith, a self-employed programmer/engineer, who reckons the QL was worth the wait.

He said: "My partner and I ordered a QL two days after the launch. We weren't among the first to order, but my partner was so aggravated by the delay
Continued on page 6

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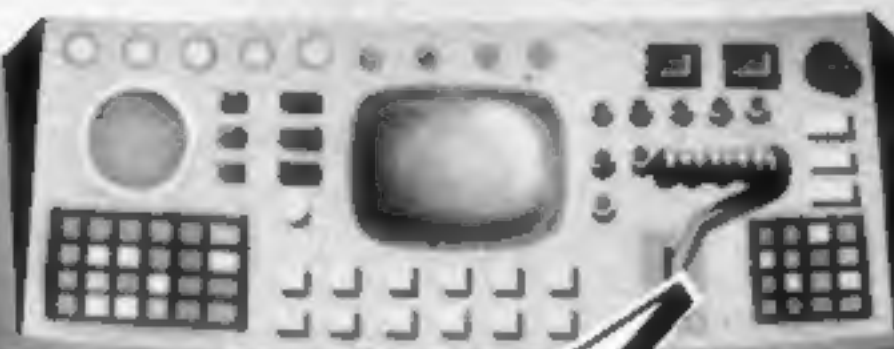
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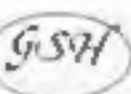


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W.H.S goes for the Advance

Why has W.H. Smith decided to sell the Advance, and what does it offer? Paul Liptrot reports

The Advance 86, model B — remove the disc drive unit and it's the model A. The monitor costs extra.

Sound: built-in speaker
Input/output: cassette (1-2K baud), light pen, two joystick ports, Centronics, TV, RGB, composite video. Model B also has TS232 port

cards, including those made for the IBM PC, and space for another two drives or hard disc
Software free with model B is Perfect Writer, Perfect Speller,

mode	colours	horiz.	vert
text	16	40/80	25
medium res.	4	320	200
high res.	2	640	200

Keyboard: black with 84 cream and grey keys, all with auto repeat, including 10 function keys and numeric keypad incorporating cursor control. The unit fits into a black box measuring 20 1/4 in by 16 1/4 in by 4 1/4 in
Disc expansion unit fits on top and contains two half-height Shugart SA455 drives, power supply and larger mother board. There are slots for more

Perfect Calc and Perfect Filer, said to be worth a total of £750

● Last year W.H.S. sold £28m-worth of computers, £13m up on the previous year

W.H. Smith, Strand House, 10 New Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1AD



Britain's biggest computer retailer, W.H. Smith, has signed an exclusive deal to sell the 16-bit Advance 86.

There are two models, both IBM compatible, with 128K of RAM, an 84-key typewriter-style keyboard — which slides into the main unit when not in use — Microsoft GW BASIC and an Intel 8086 processor running at 4.77MHz.

● Model A, which works with a domestic cassette recorder, costs £399 and is designed for home use

● Model B, for small businesses, is £1,500 and has an extra unit containing two 5 1/4 in disc drives and space for extra boards, plus four free software packages

Model A can be upgraded to Model B for £1,100.

Merchandise controller John Rowlands said the Advance was now on sale in 35 computer shops-within-shops. Another 14 would be added within three months. It will also go into 220 computer Know-how departments.

He said: "It replaces the Apple. We sold several hundred, but I don't think it has the appeal or the same availability of software. We will have about two dozen software packages by early June and 48 by the end of summer. We are talking to a number of UK software houses, but a lot is coming from the US."

The Advance, and the Sinclair QL when available to retailers, adds to Smith's current range of computers: BBC, Electron, Spectrum, ZX81 and Commodore 64.

W.H.S. already markets two own-brand computer-compatible cassette recorders and is now adding a 14in colour monitor at £249 and a 12in amber screen monitor (£89). A modem and carrying straps are possible for the Advance.

British made (by Ferranti) and designed, the Advance has 62K available to BASIC and an extra 16K handles the screen. The 64K of ROM contains BASIC, with 72 error messages, diagnostics and the cassette operating system. A further 128K of RAM chips can be added to the model A and 640K to the model B.

Advance Technology systems programmer Carl Phillips said it was as compatible with the IBM Personal Computer as rival micros.

He said: "Compatibility is a word which has lost all meaning. The ROM is obviously not byte-for-byte — that would invite IBM's legal department. The question is 'Does it run IBM software?', and it does."

A demonstration showed the Advance running a flight simulator, generally reckoned to be a good test of IBM compatibility.

Main features:
Display: 256 characters — all redefinable — scroll, full screen editing, 16 colours plus flashing. Modes:

Advance 86 BASIC keywords

ABS	of string	LOP*	PSET
ASC	DEF SEG	LOG	PUT*
ATN	DEF USR	LPOS	RANDOMIZE
AUTO	DELETE	LPRINT	READ
BEEP	DIM	LPRINT USING	REM
BLOAD	DRAW*	LSET*	RENUM
BSAVE	EDIT	RSET*	RESET closes
CALL	END	MERGE	files on all
CDBL converts to	EOF	MID\$	drives*
double precision	ERASE	MKIS, MKSS,	RESTORE
CHAIN*	ERR	MKDS convert	RETURN
CHR\$	ERR	numeric values	RIGHTS
CINT	ERROR	to string values*	RND
CIRCLE*	EXPONENTIAL	MOTOR	RUN
CLEAR	FIELD*	NAME*	SAVE
CLOSE file	FILES	NEW	SCREEN
CLS	FIX	OCT\$	SGN
COLOR	FOR...NEXT	ON COM	SGN
COM event	FRE	ON ERROR	SOUND
trapping*	GET	ON...GOSUB	SPACES
COMMON passes	GOSUB	ON KEY	SPC
variables to	GOTO	ON PEN*	SQR
chained	HEX\$	ON STRIG(n)*	STICK
program*	IF...THEN	OPEN*	STOP
CONTINUE	INKEY\$	OPEN COM*	STR\$
COSine	INP	OPTION BASE	STRIG
CSNG converts	INPUT	declares min.	STRINGS
to single	INPUT\$	value for	SWAP
precision	INSTR	array subscripts.	SYSTEM*
CVL, CVS, CVD	INTEGER	OUT	TAB
convert string	KEY	PAINT fills	TAN
values to nu-	KEY(n)*	graphics with	TIMES*
meric variables*	KILL	colour*	TRON/TROFF
DATA	LEFT\$	PEEK	USR
DATES*	LEN	PEN lightpen	VARPTR*
DATES*	LET	PLAY music*	WAIT
DEF FN	LINE	POINT	WHILE...
DEF INT/SNG/	LINE INPUT	POKE	WEND
DBL/STR	LIST	POS horiz.	WIDTH
declare variable	LLIST	pos. of cursor	WRITE
types as integer,	LOAD	PRESET	
single precision,	LOC*	PRINT	
double precision	LOCATE	PRINT USING	

* Disc BASIC only. The Advance disc operating system, supplied on disc, is a version of Microsoft MS-DOS used on the IBM Personal Computer

QL here*From front page*

Baker. One of the 15 regional winners will get prizes worth £25,000.

Director and co-producer of both is Patrick Titley. He said: "We want to show how people are using their computers."

In the one-hour show there will be a follow-up to an earlier item where John Coll found while demonstrating communications that hackers had broken the security and left messages.

Mr Titley said they faced a moral dilemma over including it, but decided to go ahead to demonstrate that computer systems can be insecure.

Like the earlier show, *Micro Live* will have a studio audience, possibly drawn from computer clubs.

The 30-minute series, due to start in October, will often be live and include occasional phone-ins.

Among the items pencilled in is a regular report from America. Outside experts will review hardware and software, programs from the series will probably be available via telesoftware and there may be a British Telecom Gold mailbox for viewers' comments.

Also in the planning stages is a chart of best selling commercial software.

My Titley and his co-producer, David Allen, were both involved in the series *Making the Most of the Micro*, which led to *Micro Live* and now the series.

He invited comments from readers of *Home Computing Weekly* on what should be included both in the single show and the series.

Micro Live, BBC TV, Villiers House, London W5

Micro show*From front page*

that he went to Camberley and blew his top.

"Perhaps his behaviour, and a number of phone calls to Sinclair, helped speed up delivery in our case."

He went on: "I think it's brilliant. I certainly wouldn't knock it. Of course there are some minor bugs but I've waited a few months and I'm prepared to wait a couple more for Sinclair to sort out the problems. As long as they update it, I'm happy".

Some of the criticisms Mr Smith did have were discrepancies between the handbook and the system. "The handbook only seems to be half finished," he said. "It contains

details on the packages, and a few small things like how to switch it on, but nothing about the BASIC."

One arithmetic bug is that if you PRINT -1-1 you get 0, not -2. I'm not worried by the bugs though. After all, the Spectrum had 16 bugs."

Peter Walters is another new QL owner. He said: "The packages are very good," he said. "The graphics are very easy to use and the microdrive is very good and reliable. The spreadsheet is good but there is a bug in it."

Mr Walters had discovered several problems. "The FILL routine doesn't work properly and the flashing is awkward," he said. "One major problem was that it took three of us eight attempts to get it back in the box!"

"In my view it is potentially better than the BBC, but it isn't at the moment," he continued.

A Sinclair spokesman said: "Our production target is 20,000 units by the end of the summer. We have had more than 13,000 orders; those who had letters from us telling them that they should receive their QL in April should by now have received them. Those who had May letters should be receiving their QL by the end of the month."

"The handbook was not completed when the first QLs went out, and the customers were advised of this. Other sections, including information on the BASIC, will be sent out this week and there will be a separate free booklet on the operating system software."

"At the moment the QL has an EPROM board which must be plugged in at the back," he continued. "This is the equivalent of three 16K EPROMS; these will all be located internally. Redesign of the PCB is not necessary. All owners are being issued with vouchers for a free conversion of firmware, and this should take place within one or two months."

Sinclair, Stanhope Rd, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3PS

Briefly

Reactions is the third release in Cloud 9's Chemistry Revision Aid Series. Two experimental simulations, a model of particles colliding and revision notes are included in this package for the 48K Spectrum. Price: £8.50 for over 75K of program.

Cloud 9, 4 Dolvin Rd, Tavistock, Devon PL19 9EA

March of the micros

My ancestry can be traced back many hundreds of years to the Chinese, although Babbage has been accredited as my creator.

Consider my development from beads on wires through Jacquard loom cards, transistors, chips, LSI chips and VLSI chips. I shudder to think how many millions of pounds/dollars/yen have been spent on my development. Even in my lowly form, I can work at thousands of instructions per second and have condensed in size from the equivalent of the Albert Hall to a keyboard.

After all this high technology development what is my ultimate aim in life? I'll tell you... to zap aliens, rescue maidens from neurotic gorillas, guide frogs across highways and rivers. You must admit, with my breeding it is a little degrading.

Still the tide is slowly turning, we are beginning to bite (or should that be byte?) back. I may only be used as a clever toy but some of my relatives are already making their presence felt.

It is a very carefully planned strategy. We even enlist you humans to help bring about your own downfall. We get you to convince each other how much you would benefit from one of us in your office/factory. We then demand special environments, and special clothes to be worn. We have even got our own languages (which nobody understands) and a breed of acolytes to tend our every need. We demand and get utter obedience to our every command and we are never (well, hardly ever) wrong. If we give the wrong answer it is your fault: you must have asked the wrong question or input the wrong information.

We behave for a while until you are dependent on us and then we start to flex our chips and cause problems. Nothing serious to begin with so you do not lose confidence — yet!

Even I, a homecomputer, am playing my part in the grand plan. I have taken over the colour TV and am making fast progress in addicting the humans in my household to using me to the exclusion of all else.

Our advance into all aspects of your way of life is continuous. We are now virtually unstoppable. To be sure, we can be unplugged individually but how are you going to unplug us all at once? You even let us talk to each other at speeds most of you cannot even comprehend. Imagine how much we can tell each other in less than the twinkling of one of your eyes.

Yes, we are destined to take over and control the world. You think that you are clever, but who was the first to the moon, Mars, the outer planets? Our super brethren are so complex that we have to design them ourselves. You are giving it to us on a plate.

So be warned and think on it, although there is not much that you can do about it now.

A TI-99/4A

Alias B. E. Brind
Rugely, Staffs

● This space is for you to sound off about the micro scene, to present bouquets, to hurl brickbats, or just to share your opinions or experiences. Contributions from individuals earn a fee. Send your views to Paul Liptrot, Editor, *Home Computing Weekly*, No. 1 Golden Square, London W1R 3AB

Spot the differences: 92 prizes from

GEC DRAGON

waiting to be won

AS well as making one of Britain's most popular home computers, GEC Dragon is also among the biggest producers of software.

And we have got together with Dragon for this week's free-to-enter competition. We are offering 92 prizes of Dragon's fun game, Junior's Revenge, which cost £10.95 in the shops.

As well as 32K and 64K computers, Dragon produces double and single 5¼in disc drives and joysticks — and there are more peripherals to come.

And the company, which now has the power of GEC behind it, also markets more than 80 software titles.

They range from arcade and adventure games to educational, utilities and a new suite of business software for the Dragon 64, including word processing and a database.

Junior's Revenge is a seven-screen game featuring characters like ZuZu birds and the Vinegators.

Here's Dragon's description of it:

After saving his girlfriend from the clutches of a huge gorilla, Luigi has captured the gorilla and put him in a cage. In this game, you are Junior. The gorilla is your dad and you must save him. This would be a simple task except for the trained animals Luigi has sent to stop you. You have the ability to climb up and down vines and chains and to jump over obstacles.

Junior's Revenge, which runs on either Dragon, is the subject of our competition.

How to enter

Study the two cartoons — there are a number of differences between them. Circle the differences on cartoon B and seal the cartoon and the coupon in an envelope. Write clearly on the back of the envelope the number of differences you found.

Post your entry to GEC Dragon Competition, Home Computing Weekly, No. 1 Golden Square, London W1R 3AB. Entries close at first post on Friday June 1, 1984.

You may enter as many times as you wish, but each entry must be on the official coupon — not a copy — and sealed in a separate envelope.

The winners will be the senders of the first 92 correct entries opened at random after the closing date.

The prizes will arrive from GEC Dragon within 28 days of the publication of the issue containing the names of the winners, or earlier.

Important: please follow carefully the guidelines on entering — incomplete coupons and entries in envelopes with no number on the back cannot be considered. If you are a winner, the coupon will be used as a label to send your prize so clear writing is essential.

The rules

Entries will not be accepted from employees of Argus Specialist Publications, GEC Dragon and Alabaster Passmore & Sons. This restriction also applies to employees' families and agents of the companies.

The How to Enter section is part of the rules.

GEC Dragon Competition

Entry Coupon

Name _____

Address _____

_____ post code _____

Number of differences found _____

Complete clearly and fully — if you are a winner this will act as a label for your prize. Post to GEC Dragon Competition, Home Computing Weekly, No. 1 Golden Square, London W1R 3AB. Closing date: first post, Friday June 1, 1984. Do not forget to write the number of differences on the back of your envelope.



Megawarz CBM 64 £7.50

Paramount, 67 Bishopton Lane,
Stockton, Cleveland TS18 1PU

It's the finishing touches which separate the good from the bad. The good ensure initial playability by ham-fisted novices, long use by difficulty levels and enjoyment by attention to detail. A personal tailoring option — selecting three to five lives, bonus life, five difficulty and volume levels — raised hopes which were not disappointed.

The aim of the game is a round-trip mission to neighbouring planets, rescuing space-floating astronauts. Each planet is defended by hostiles; once these are cleared, all nearby astronauts appear for a brief rescue period, before mutating into deadly aliens. Contact with

these or any hostile causes you to explode. Shields will save you but their power is limited.

The ship rotates in eight directions, thrusting forward only and bounces off the screen edge. Rotation controls are very sensitive, needing precise control if you are not to spin helplessly.

The sound and music are well-chosen, the graphics excellent. Display shows score, hi-score, lives, rescues and shields, if you have time to look. End screen gives details of achievement and rating. Exciting and addictive. Get it.

instructions	90%
playability	85%
graphics	90%
value for money	80%



D.C.

Midnight Express CBM 64 £7.00

Camilla, 4 Marenes Crescent,
Brightlingsea, Colchester CO7
0RX

With the strength of the big boys in the software market, life can be rather tough for the small fish. This game is of the maze type and could easily have entered the realms of mediocrity.

The game has three phases, each involving trains. In phase one a circular man moves around the maze picking up mail Pac Man style. A train also moves around the track and you must avoid colliding with it. By moving your man to certain locations in the maze you can

convert him to a carriage which, if you can catch the train, you can tack on the end for a bonus.

In phase two the length of the train continually increases and you must remove carriages from the end, or else it will collide with itself and end the phase. The final phase is similar to phase one but much faster.

Graphically the game is nice but not outstanding. At the price the game is perhaps a touch overpriced but it is an enjoyable game and worth checking out.

instructions	80%
playability	75%
graphics	70%
value for money	70%



A.W.

Mind Control CBM 64 £6.90

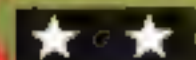
ACE, 82/84 Peckham Rye, London SE15 4HB

Science fiction film fans will remember when miniaturised doctors were injected into the bloodstream of a human to operate on a brain tumour. Here, you've got to destroy the nerve centre in Zyco's brain, an indestructable (their spelling) alien, before your miniaturising pill wears off, avoiding blood corpuscles and antibodies. There is illogicality to this twist on the original. Why does the alien permit injection? And why wouldn't a human body, exploding full-size in his brain, finish him off anyway?

Screen display also shows lack of research. Basically, a visible maze in the convoluted shape of a brain, with some circles (corpuscles?) whizzing around, and a spiderish shape I assume to be the target at the centre. Your weapon fires only in the direction you are going, without effect on corpuscles. Controls are extremely sensitive and touching anything changes you from a tiny dot to a mountaineer in Lederhosen, and sends you back to start again.

And that's it. Possibilities — lungs, heart, variety of opponent — must be left to a future programmer with more imagination. Illogicality aside, won't interest for more than five minutes.

instructions	90%
playability	40%
graphics	30%
value for money	50%



D.C.

Play more with your CBM 64

Our panel reviews sci-fi, space
and maze games for the CBM
64

Pigs in Space CBM 64 £6.90

ACE, 82/84 Peckham Rye, London SE15 4HB

Clearly programmer and insert writer are unacquainted. It's wolves in space, the pigs being land-based and your pig lazer (a pun on lazy pigs or poor spelling?) is a bow and arrow.

Mummy pig is hoisted up and down in a basket, while wolves drop by balloon or heli-pack from a conveyor belt through the middle of a cloud. Or perhaps it's a spaceship. They are hurling at Mummy what the insert calls space dust but looks like thumping great rocks to me. Once hit, Mummy's dead.

After she has killed 20 wolves, she's supposed to come down, avoid atomic bombardment, and

rescue a piglet hiding in trees. Mummy really could do with more modern equipment because her arrows are slow. Landing wolves can be shot on the ground, but if missed, rise underneath the basket, meaning certain death.

Keyboard or joystick. No display of wolves hit so I don't know if I ever came near to 20 before my lives ran out on Level 1 and I could not work up sufficient interest to keep trying. No title screen, poor use of sound, chunky graphics and loading difficulties.

instructions	90%
playability	50%
graphics	50%
value for money	50%



D.C.

Outback CBM 64 £7.50

Paramount, 67 Bishopton Lane,
Stockton, Cleveland TS18 1PU

Cunning swagmen drop from the trees, parachute from helicopters and swarm from the hills, intent upon stealing baby kangaroos. But they're not getting yours, Blue. Nine roos penned up as decoy and you're concealed, ready to pick swaggers off with your bow and arrow. Trouble is, they keep throwing the boomerangs, which has a nasty effect on your life, and if you run out of lives or roos, you're out of business.

A previous version of this scenario bored me to tears — so why do I like this? The option to customise difficulty to my level? The screen variety? Choice of straight or guided arrows? All that, plus combination of super graphics, excellent sound and a great sense of humour. The plaintive squeal of captured roos, swagmen diving satisfyingly head-first to death, text comments; all make it a joy to play. The death sequence is superb too.

Hall of Fame, joystick or keyboard, music 'off', hold, on-screen details, end screen achievement and rating — this program lacks nothing but Fosters, and will last as long as you can play.

instructions	90%
playability	95%
graphics	95%
value for money	80%



D.C.

TERMINAL SOFTWARE

The illustration depicts a 3D perspective of a space battle. A central figure, a hand in a green glove, holds a joystick. Surrounding this are various Commodore 64 computer monitors displaying different game screens: a space map, a starfield, a planet, a space station, and a tactical display. The background is a vibrant space scene with a large planet, a ringed planet, and various alien spacecraft and weapons. The title 'STAR COMMANDO' is written in large, stylized, metallic letters across the top. A circular badge with the text 'Win Your Wings' is positioned near the joystick.

Win Your Wings

The Galaxy is under attack! You must destroy hostile forces such as Kamikazes and Sausonic Raiders, and you must also clear Minefields and Meteor Storms. Reach the top rank of "Star Commando" and you'll be awarded a special "Star Commando" wings metal badge. A fantastic 3-D perspective fast action game for the Commodore 64. Written by Reg Stevens. £7.95.

Terminal Software Games are available from -

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 Falck - Norway
 ZXAfrica - S. Africa
 Ozisoft - Australia
 Alpine - New Zealand

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Micro Dealer

PCS
 SDL Prism
 Softshop International
 Solomon & Peres
 Stage One
 Tiger Distribution

TERMINAL

Jungle Jive 32K Acorn Electron £7.95

Virgin, 61-63 Portobello Rd,
London W11 3DD

I think the name for this game was pulled out of a hat, because there is no relationship with the game.

You are a lone hunter armed with a rifle. You are surrounded by wild animals which you must shoot. You also have to avoid the ricocheting bullets if you miss. To clear one screen you must shoot all the pink elephants. In this time of wild life conservation it must be illegal to kill pink elephants.

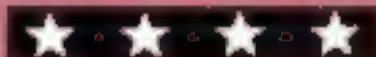
If this makes the game sound exciting it's not meant to. The game suffers very badly from

lack of movement. You can only move up or down on one plane and shoot left or right. After playing a couple of times it becomes monotonous.

Graphics are fair. The colour of the animals is not true to nature but makes for interesting viewing. As you progress the game speeds up but the excitement does not increase in proportion.

I expect this game could appeal to the very young. If you like exciting safari then give this one a miss. **M.B.**

instructions	90%
playability	90%
graphics	80%
value for money	70%



Three Circles/ Number Search Sord M5 £8.95

Computer Games, CGL House,
Goldings Hill, Loughton, Essex
IG10 2RR

This double games cassette for the unexpanded Sord M5 contains Three circles and Number search.

Three circles is described as an original version of the three circle game and is a contest between your brain and the computer's CPU. You must consider your move as well as your opponents. I'm afraid this is all I can say about this game since I found the instruction booklet totally incomprehensible.

Number search is a simple version of the once popular game

Master Mind by Invicta Plastics. If you've been living in an underground shelter for the last 50 years, you won't know this game so let me explain. The purpose of this game is to find a special number generated by the opponent — in this case the computer — by using the fewest possible hints. In this version you choose the number of digits and the computer gives the hints.

These are two trivial games which don't exploit the capability of the M5 to any extent. This is surprising since all the other double cassettes are fairly good but I honestly cannot recommend this. **S.S.**

instructions	40%
playability	30%
graphics	30%
value for money	40%



Bankroll TI-99/4A £7

Not Polyoptics, from Stainless,
10 Alstone Rd, Stockport,
Cheshire SK4 5AH

The only complaint I have is that nowhere in the instructions, and contrary to information on the cassette, is it mentioned that this program runs in Extended BASIC. Otherwise, this is a quite good, text only, investment game for two to four players.

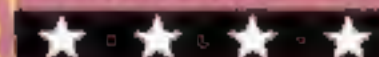
Each player starts with \$10,000 and the game ends when a predetermined target is reached. The upper limit is \$999,999 so you've no chance to achieve millionaire status.

The computer randomly decides the order of turns and when everyone has completed their choices, annual returns on all the players' investments are shown. Each player may buy and sell bonds or shares, but a sharp eye must be kept on interest rates and taxation. 'Headlines' may also have a long- or short-term effect on the outcome.

When the game ends the name of the winner is transformed into sprites which roll around the screen.

Overall, a complex and well structured program. You need to be a financial wizard to appreciate all the factors affecting capital and investments, but even if you aren't, it's still fun to play. Needs Extended BASIC. **J.W.**

instructions	90%
playability	75%
graphics	N/A
value for money	85%



Jamboree for all!

A mixed bag of games are
reviewed for you by our panel

Pedes and Mutants VIC-20 £6.99

Romik, 272 Argyll Avenue,
Slough, Berks SL1 4HE

The first thing you will notice is that the screen area has been positioned a little too close to the top of the TV screen.

The second thing you will notice is the sometimes quaint structure of the English used in the pages of instructions/descriptions.

What you will not fail to notice is the complete unoriginality of the game itself, which consists of various objects being continually scrolled

towards you.

You can use either a joystick or the keyboard to move left, right and fire.

Personally I found the game a veritable confusion of objects on the screen. Why an ant? Why a flea?

Having once seen the game I certainly wouldn't take the trouble to attach a joystick.

Nor for that matter would I bother to play it again. **B.B.**

instructions	100%
playability	50%
graphics	60%
value for money	50%



Sorcerers Apprentice Commodore 64 £9.99

Phoenix, Spangles House, 116
Marsh Rd, Pinner, Middx

This company uses a novel format in that they sell double cassette sets. One cassette is an arcade-type game and the other a textual adventure. The arcade game gives clues on how to solve the adventure. These clues are obtained when you reach the end of various skill levels. You are the sorcerer's apprentice trying to stop animated brooms from filling a well. The game is graphically good but the levels were so long that it was a game of endurance rather than skill, and soon became boring. To pile on the agony, Ducas' music was murdered in the background.

The adventure is a little more challenging. Your quest is to locate the spell to stop the brooms. The scenario is a slightly improbable wizard's house (I didn't know that wizards watched TV). The game has lots of problems to solve and soon makes the brain hurt.

It does have some weaknesses, one being that the interpreter only recognises the first two letters of your commands so that drain sump would be treated the same way as drop suitcase.

Overall, a fair package. **M.W.**

instructions	65%
ease of use	75%
graphics	75%
value for money	60%





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Score points as you collect potatoes without getting caught in the shadow cast by the setting sun or falling into your trench.

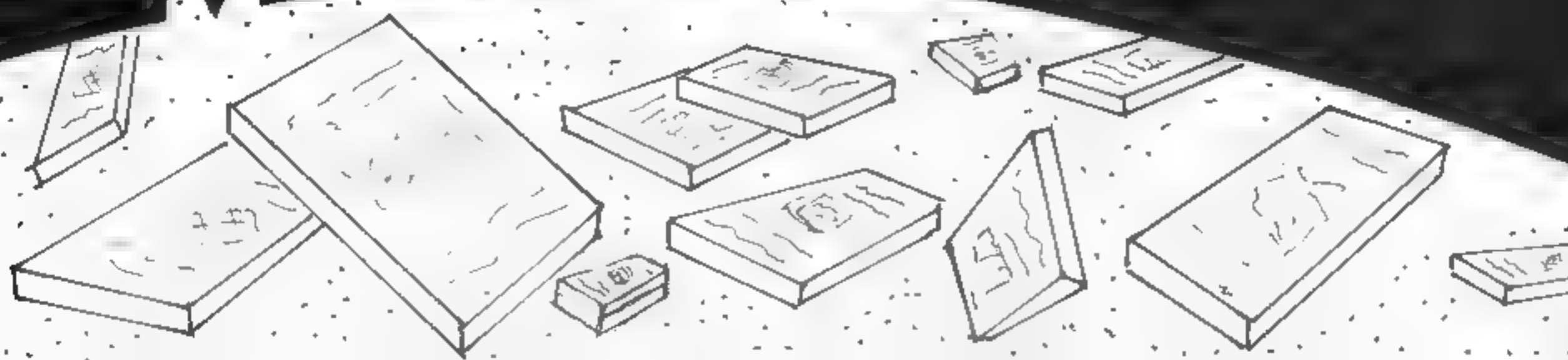
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Blast the aliens as they appear from hyperspace, features 3 levels of play, refuel etc.

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All games described here run on the UNEXPANDED TEXAS T190/4a.



Vegetable Crash Spectrum £5.95

Kuma, 12 Horseshoe Pk, Horse-shoe Rd, Pangbourne, Berks

A simple but addictive arcade game in machine code from the Kuma stable especially for gardening fanatics

A fair loading screen leads us to the instructions — a nice idea — and then to the game itself. Screen top has score and hi-score in computer type above a five-row formation of vegetables, which fly down to attack you, squirting seeds. Your only defence is three guns firing fork missiles. As you shoot the vegetables new ones arrive from the top. When the screen is emptied a new formation

appears and screen two is recorded bottom right. Hit a radish — or is it a turnip? — in mid-attack and you receive a healthy bonus score

Kuma has produced a game that youngsters will enjoy until zapping and scoring become boring — then, because there is nothing new, it will be discarded. The use of sound is fair, but not brilliant, as is the use of colour and graphics

There needs to be more than one good idea in a game — in this case seed squirting vegetables — for it to catch on

T.W

instructions	80%
playability	70%
graphics	65%
value for money	50%



Millionaire 48K Spectrum £5.50

A program for budding entrepreneurs who would like to run a software company. Your task is to earn a million from software sales

You start with £500 and a marketable program which may be sold to boost capital. The program runs in monthly cycles, first a graphic representation of your offices, which become more impressive as your assets grow. At the start of the game you occupy a terraced house — 24 Broad St

Next a balance sheet shows the number of programs you have on the market, sales, stock, rates, assets and money borrowed. Then a sales graph is drawn, followed by a news sheet. You must now decide on the month's

activities' programming, seeing Honest Harry, selling to dealers, converting programs, obtaining a loan or selling out

You will be asked for advertising expenditure and how many cassettes you wish to have duplicated. Periodically you are asked what makes a good program: this is very important

This is all well presented and very addictive, offering excellent value for money. I think it will take a while for the player to make his million — my highest is only £50,000 and I only moved house once to a nice detached house — 16 The Avenue J.S.

instructions	80%
playability	90%
display	80%
value for money	90%



25 Lunatic 48K Spectrum £7.95

Hewson, Hewson House, 56B Milton Trading Estate, Milton, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4RX

This is the second of a trilogy of 3D games featuring the Great Seiddab Empire. You must save mankind from imminent destruction by destroying the Seiddab command base on the moon

The game is played from the cockpit of your Z5 Luna Hover-fighter. Craters rush towards your ship at an alarming speed and then the first wave of defence appears: Dab Tanks firing Ytsan missiles. Next, you fly across a mountainous mined area. If you survive this, you enter the final zone: silos firing Hewston missiles. At last you reach the heavily armed command base which can take several hits to destroy

The instructions are very good although they don't explain the choice of control keys fully. There is also an appalling sound track — a James Bond style briefing. This is also available on the Currah Micro-speech unit

This is an excellent program — the 3D graphics are stunning and it is highly addictive. It's not easy though. I spent a long time plummeting to the ground before I even saw the base. I have yet to destroy it. J.S.

instructions	85%
playability	85%
graphics	95%
value for money	60%



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Zigzag 48K Spectrum £6.95

DK'tronics, Shire Hill Industrial Estate, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 3AQ

3D graphics seem to be the vogue among the smaller software houses while the larger ones are concentrating on animation. Usually 3D games have great visual impact but are much less addictive, as much of the program is concerned with display rather than with playability. Unfortunately, Zigzag is no exception

This is a 3D maze game consisting of six sectors: you must rid each sector of the Scarabaqs — peculiar limpet-like things with legs — before you

can enter the next one. You must watch out for the Hoverdroids who will zap your energy. That's all there is to it

Your time is spent either searching endless corridors or chasing a Scarabaq into a blind alley. There's no alien or missile dodging like most arcade games. The only danger is the loss of energy, but you will be totally bored before then

The inlay card boasts a special rapid loading system, that ought to fool the pirates for a while

It's a boring game even if the graphics are nice. J.S.

instructions	80%
playability	20%
graphics	85%
value for money	25%



All Astro 48K Spectrum £5.95

Gargoyle Games, 4 North Western Arcade, Birmingham B2 5LH

There's a bug in this program. The inlay card boasts 'out of this world explosions'; they certainly are the best I've seen, but... they don't work: an image of your ship appears just below. This is just about acceptable except that when your ship is at the bottom of the screen the program crashes

You are a member of the Deep Space Patrol and must rid the galaxy of enemy ships, while dodging massive, rotating moons. This is as far as I can go before an enemy catches me at the bottom of the screen and the program crashes. However, it appears there are other aliens, mines and mine layers and inter-stellar debris

The graphics are third party 3D, i.e. you see your ship on the screen in front of you, instead of a cockpit view. Thus, your ship, rather than the display, moves when you change direction. This destroys the realism

This would be a reasonable program if it weren't for the bug. I hope Gargoyle Games have ironed it out — it seems only a simple mistake. I would advise anyone wishing to buy this game to ask for a demonstration first. (The ratings assume the bug has been corrected) J.S.

instructions	90%
playability	65%
graphics	95%
value for money	65%



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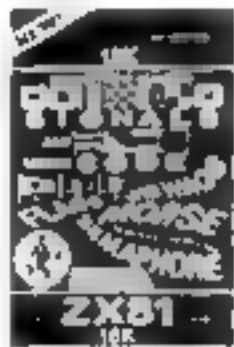
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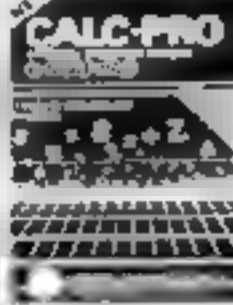
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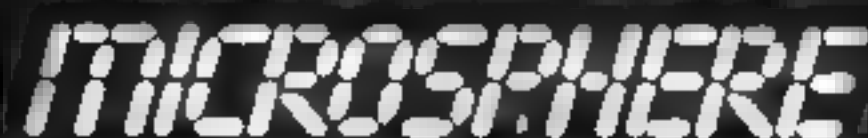
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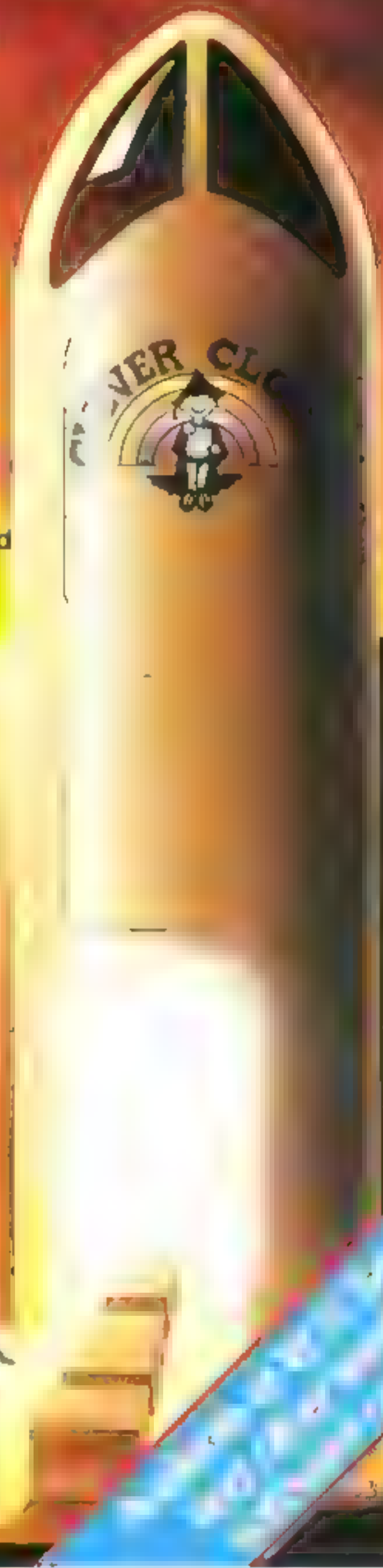
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Listing 1 — this must be entered first

```

10 REM ** SNAKES & LADDERS **
20 REM ** A computerised version for the Acorn Electr
on / BBC micro model B **
30 REM ** S.W. Lucas 1984 **
40 REM ** This part must be used to load the main p
rogram because it defines the characters and envelopes
**
50 ENVELOPE1,1,-7,7,0,10,10,0,126,0,0, 126,126,126
60 ENVELOPE2,1,1,0,0,200,0,0,126,0,0, 126,126,126
70 ENVELOPE3,1,36,-36,0,20,20,0,126,0,0,-126,126,12
80 ENVELOPE4,4,-1,1,0,20,20,0,126,0,0,-126,126,126
90 REM DISABLE ESCAPE (O.S. 1.2)
100 *FX229,1
110 REM DISABLE BREAK
120 *KEY 10 OLD:IM RUN:IM
130 COLOUR1
140 MODE 1:COLOUR131:COLOUR1:PRINTTAB(10,2)"Snakes and
Ladders"
150 COLOUR130:PRINTTAB(10,10)"<C> 1984 S.W. Lucas"
160 COLOUR129:COLOUR2:PRINT""This is a version of t
he familiar board game for two players.
"
170 COLOUR132:PRINT""In this version, the computer w
ill be your opponent and before you can move up a l
adder, you will be given a question to answer."
180 FORX=1TO10:READY: SOUND1,-15,Y,3:NEXTX
190 COLOUR131:COLOUR1:PRINT"Please wait for the main
program to load"
200 VDU23,230,195,195,195,255,195,195,255,195
210 VDU23,231,2,14,30,50,251,111,199,7
220 VDU23,232,0,0,0,0,0,0,120,120
230 VDU23,233,0,0,0,0,7,15,20,63
240 VDU23,234,0,0,0,0,240,252,206,63
250 VDU23,235,195,255,195,195,255,195,195,195
260 VDU23,236,0,0,0,0,0,1,1,0
270 VDU23,237,192,224,224,244,192,170,192,96
280 VDU23,238,20,15,0,24,16,16,16,0
290 VDU23,239,14,252,4,6,2,2,2,0
300 VDU23,240,96,124,44,6,6,6,7
310 VDU23,241,0,1,2,2,2,1,0,0
320 VDU23,242,0,224,16,16,16,214,0,0
330 VDU23,243,2,7,4,15,4,4,7,1
340 VDU23,244,160,252,4,0,6,60,4,252,240
350 VDU23,245,0,31,31,31,31,31,31
360 VDU23,246,224,255,191,191,191,255,255,247
370 VDU23,247,25,25,25,27,27,27,37
380 VDU23,248,243,179,247,251,2,27,24,24
390 VDU23,249,3,3,3,3,3,63,77,67
400 VDU23,250,14,24,14,24,24,31,17,31
410 VDU23,255,255,255,255,255,255,255,255,255
420 REM LADDER = VDU230,10,0,25
430 REM SNAKE = VDU231,232,0,0,0,0,236,237,10,0,240
440 REM OCTOPUS = VDU233,234,10,0,0,0,238,239
450 REM MONSTER = VDU235,244,10,0,0,0,245,246,10,0,0,24
7,240,10,0,0,249,250
460 DATA53,61,53,61,53,69,53,69,101,97,09,01,73,69,61
,53,61,53
470 REM USERS WHO HAVE BOTH DISC AND ECDNET FITTED S
HOULD CHANGE THIS LINE TO PAGE=1980 SO THAT IT WILL R
UN FROM DISC
480 CHAIN

```

That family favourite, Snakes and Ladders, written for the BBC and Electron computers by Steve Lucas

This is a computerised version of the familiar board game in which the object is to move your piece to the top right hand location on the board. Your opponent is the computer.

If you land on a snake, you will move down and if you land on a ladder you will move up.

If, however, you land on a square which has both snake and a ladder you will be given a simple sum to do and, depending on your answer, you will move up or down.

The computer cheats... it always moves up!

Listing 1 defines the characters and envelopes and gives brief instructions and CHAINS the main program, Listing 2.

● Disc users see line 470 of Listing 1

How it works
Listing 1

50-80 define envelopes
100-120 disable break and escape keys
130-180 instructions
190-460 define user defined characters
460 DATA for music
480 LOADS main program

Listing 2 — CHAINED by Listing 1

```

10 REM ** LADDERS - part 2 of Snakes and Ladders **
20 REM ** S.W. Lucas 1984 **
30 ON ERROR RUN
40 MODE 1:Y=1:UX=0:VX=0:VDU19,0,7,0,0,0,19,1,6,0,0,0
,19,2,1,0,0,0,19,3,4,0,0,0:GCOL0,1:FORYZ=0TO005:IF 100:
FORX=0TO005STEP300
50 MOVEX,X,150+YX:MOVEX,X,YX:PLOTAB5,XX+150,150+YX:PLO
TAB5,XX+150,YX:MOVEX,X+150,YX+150:MOVEX,X+150,YX+300:PLOTAB
5,XX+300,YX+150:PLOTAB5,XX+300,YX+300:NEXTX,YX
60 MOVE0,0:DRAW900,0:DRAW900,900:DRAW0,900:DRAW0,0
70 VDU3:BCOL0,2:MOVE620,100:PRINT1:MOVE640,250:PRINT
12:MOVE640,400:PRINT13:MOVE640,550:PRINT24:MOVE640,700:
PRINT25:MOVE640,860:PRINT36:VDU4
80 PRINTTAB(29,30)"Start":PRINTTAB(29,61)"End":PROC5
1
90 PROCnan(0,1024,3):PRINTTAB(6,1)"Snakes & Ladders"
:PROCnan(000,1024,3)
100 TIME=0:REPEAT UNTIL TIME 100 .PRINTTAB(6,1)SPC(16)
:PRINTTAB(34,0)"You":PROCcrab 1200,000,2):PRINTTAB(35,1
0)"He":PROCnan(1200,700,2)
110 REPEAT:PROCme
120 IFVX>1THENPROCcrase(025,140,0)
130 IFVX=36THEN100
140 PRINTTAB(30,22)"HIT A KEY":A=GET:PRINTTAB(30,22)S

```



```

PC10
150 PROCyou
160 IFUX>1THENPROCerase(750,140,0)
170 PRINTTAB(30,22)"HIT A KEY":A=GET:PRINTTAB(30,22)S
***
180 UNTILUX>35ORVZ<35
190 IFUZ>35THENPROCwin ELSEPROClose
200 END
210 DEFPROCsnake(XZ,YZ,ZZ)
220 VDU5:GCOL0,ZZ:MOVEXZ,YZ:VDU231,232,10,0,0,236,237
,10,0,240,4:ENDPROC
230 DEFPROCadder(XZ,YZ)
240 VDU5:GCOL0,2:MOVEXZ,YZ:VDU230,10,0,235,4:ENDPROC
250 DEFPROCman(XZ,YZ,ZZ)
260 VDU5:MOVEXZ,YZ:GCOL0,ZZ:VDU243,244,10,0,0,245,24
6,10,0,0,247,240,10,0,0,249,250,4:ENDPROC
270 DEFPROCsl
280 RESTORE360:FORX=1TO1:READXZ,YZ:PROCsnake(XZ,YZ,Z
):NEXT
    
```

```

570 IFFZ=0THENPROCdown ELSEIFFZ=1THENPROCup
580 IFF=1ORQ=1THENRESTORE600:FORX=1TOUX:READXZ,YZ:NE
T:PROCerase(XZ,YZ,ZZ):RESTORE600:FORX=1TOY:READXZ,YZ
:NEXT:PROCcrab(XZ,YZ,Z):UZ=Y:PROCsl
590 ENDPROC
600 DATA25,140,675,140,525,140,375,140,225,140,75,14
0,75,290,225,290,375,290,525,290,675,290,825,290,44
0,675,440,525,440,375,440,225,440,75,440,75,590,225,590
,375,590,525,590,675,590,825,590
610 DATA25,740,675,740,525,740,375,740,225,740,75,74
0,75,890,225,890,375,890,525,890,675,890,825,890
620 DATA75,740,825,890,675,890,525,890,375,890,225,89
0,75,890
630 DEFPROCch
640 P=1:IFY=3THENY=10 ELSEIFY=6THENY=20 ELSEIFY=14THE
NY=23 ELSEIFY=18THENY=31 ELSEIFY=22THENY=27 ELSEIFY=25T
HENY=36 ELSEP=0
650 Q=1:IFY=0THENY=4 ELSEIFY=14THENY=12 ELSEIFY=15THE
NY=2 ELSEIFY=29THENY=21 ELSEIFY=34THENY=23 ELSEQ=0
    
```



Snakes alive! Will you win against your computer?

```

290 FORYZ=400TO800STEP50:PROCadder(20,YZ):NEXT:FORYZ
=300TO500STEP50:PROCadder(170,YZ):NEXT:FORYZ=700TO000S
TEP50:PROCadder(770,YZ):NEXT:FORYZ=100TO200STEP50:PROC
Ladder(470,YZ):NEXT
300 FORYZ=400TO500STEP50:PROCadder(620,YZ):NEXT:FOR
YZ=550TO650STEP50:PROCadder(470,YZ):NEXT
310 ENDPROC
320 DEFPROCerase(XZ,YZ,ZZ)
330 VDU5:GCOL2,ZZ:MOVEXZ,YZ:VDU255,255,10,0,0,255,255
,10,0,0,255,255,10,0,0,255,255,4:ENDPROC
340 DEFPROCcrab(XZ,YZ,ZZ)
350 VDU5:MOVEXZ-75,YZ:GCOL0,ZZ:VDU233,234,10,0,0,230,
239,4:ENDPROC
360 DATA270,190,500,800,550,720,600,640,550,350,600,2
70,650,190,100,720,230,640,200,560,730,350
370 DEFPROCee
380 PROCsl:IFVZ=1ORVZ=3ORVZ=5ORVZ=7ORVZ=9ORVZ=11ORVZ
=13ORVZ=15ORVZ=17ORVZ=19ORVZ=21ORVZ=23ORVZ=25ORVZ=27ORV
Z=29ORVZ=31ORVZ=33ORVZ=37THEN ZZ=0ELSEZZ=1
390 RESTORE600:FORX=1TOVZ:READXZ,YZ:NEXT:PROCerase(XZ
,YZ,ZZ)
400 PRINTTAB(30,15):SPC10:TAB(30,17):SPC8
410 PX=2:PROCthrow("I ")
420 VX=VX+Y:IFVZ>35THENVZ=36
430 RESTORE600:FORX=1TOVZ:READXZ,YZ:NEXT:PROCman(XZ,Y
Z,Z):PROCsl
440 Y=VZ:PROCch:IFVZ/2=INT(VZ/2)THENZX=1ELSEZX=0
450 IFF=1ORQ=1THENRESTORE600:FORX=1TOVZ:READXZ,YZ:NE
XT:PROCerase(XZ,YZ,ZZ):RESTORE600:FORX=1TOY:READXZ,YZ:NE
XT:PROCman(XZ,YZ,Z):VZ=Y:PROCsl
460 ENDPROC
470 DEFPROCthrow(A$)
480 SOUND1,3,30,30:Y=RND(6):PRINTTAB(6,1):A$:" throw
":Y:ENDPROC
490 DEFPROCyou
500 PROCsl:IFUX=1ORUX=3ORUX=5ORUX=7ORUX=9ORUX=11ORUX
=13ORUX=15ORUX=17ORUX=19ORUX=21ORUX=23ORUX=25ORUX=27ORU
X=29ORUX=31ORUX=33ORUX=37THEN ZX=0ELSEZX=1
510 RESTORE600:FORX=1TOUX:READXZ,YZ:NEXT:PROCerase(XZ
-75,YZ,ZZ)
520 PROCthrow("You")
530 UX=UX+Y:IFUX>35THENUX=36
540 RESTORE600:FORX=1TOUX:READXZ,YZ:NEXT:PROCcrab(XZ,
YZ,Z):PROCsl
550 Y=UX:PROCch:IFUX/2=INT(UX/2)THENZX=1ELSEZX=0
560 IFF=1ORQ=1THENPROCquestion
    
```

How it works listing 2

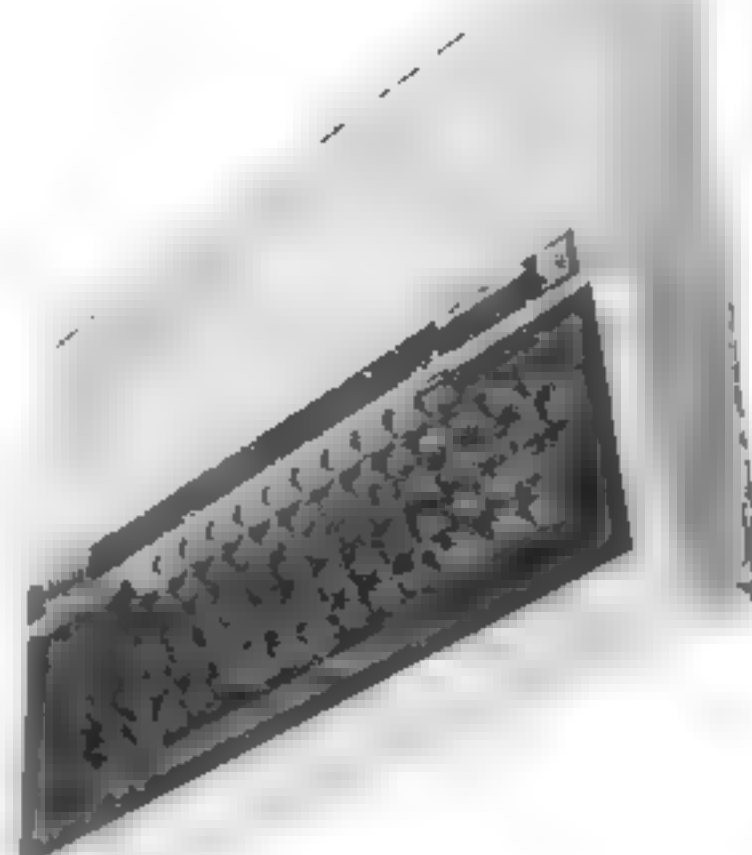
- 30 disables escape
- 40-80 draw board
- 90 draw pieces
- 100 draw crab
- 110-190 main control loop
- 210-220 draw snake
- 230-240 draw ladder
- 250-260 draw man
- 270-310 fill board
- 320-330 erase
- 340-360 draw crab
- 370-460 my go
- 470-480 throw
- 490-590 your go
- 600-620 data for board
- 630-660 check board
- 670-710 win game
- 720-750 lose game
- 760-820 set question
- 830-870 go down snake
- 880-920 go up ladder

Variables

- X%, Y% co-ordinates for plotting
- Z% colour
- A\$ messages
- V% location on board
- X,Y counting loops
- O% computer's board location
- AA input for answer to question
- H,G random number for questions

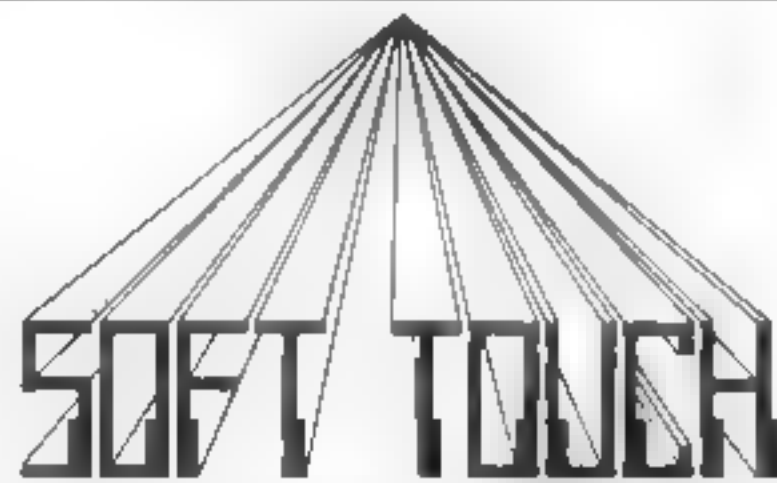
Hints on conversion

It would be very difficult to convert this program to run on any other computer. The graphics would need conversion. PROCedures would have to be replaced by subroutines, REPEAT... UNTIL loops would need replacing by conditional GOTOs, calls to the operating system (*FS calls) would have to be converted to machine-specific POKEs.



```

660 ENDPROC
670 DEFPROCwin
680 CLS:COLOUR1:PRINTTAB(10) "Well done" :COLOUR2:PR
INTTAB(12) "You win"
690 COLOUR3:PRINTTAB(0,24) "Would you like another gam
? <Y/N>"
700 REPEAT AS=GET$:UNTILAS="Y"ORAS="N":IFAS="Y"THEN R
UN ELSECLS:PRINT"GOODBYE":END
710 ENDPROC
720 DEFPROClose
730 CLS:COLOUR2:PRINTTAB(10) "So sorry... You lose!"
740 COLOUR3:PRINTTAB(0,24) "Would you like another gam
? <Y/N>"
750 REPEAT AS=GET$:UNTILAS="Y"ORAS="N":IFAS="Y" THEN
RUN ELSECLS:PRINT"GOODBYE":END
760 DEFPROCquestion
770 COLOUR3:PRINTTAB(30,15) "What is :-"
780 G=AND(5):H=RND(4):PRINTTAB(30,17) "G:" + "H:"
790 REPEAT AAS=GET$:AA=VAL(AAS)
800 UNTIL AA>0 AND AA<10
810 IF AA>0 THEN PX=1 ELSE PX=0
820 ENDPROC
830 DEFPROCdown
840 PX=2:IFUX=0THENY=4 ELSEIFUX=14THENY=12 ELSEIFUX=1
5THENY=2 ELSEIFUX=29THENY=21 ELSEIFUX=34THENY=23
850 IFUX=3THENY=3 ELSEIFUX=18THENY=18 ELSEIFUX=22THEN
Y=22 ELSEIFUX=25THENY=25
860 SOUND1,4,30,60
870 ENDPROC
880 DEFPROCup
890 *FX21,5
900 SOUND1,2,30,30
910 IFUX=15THENY=15 ELSEIFUX=29THENY=29 ELSEIFUX=34TH
ENY=34
920 PX=2:ENDPROC
    
```



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MIKRO-GEN

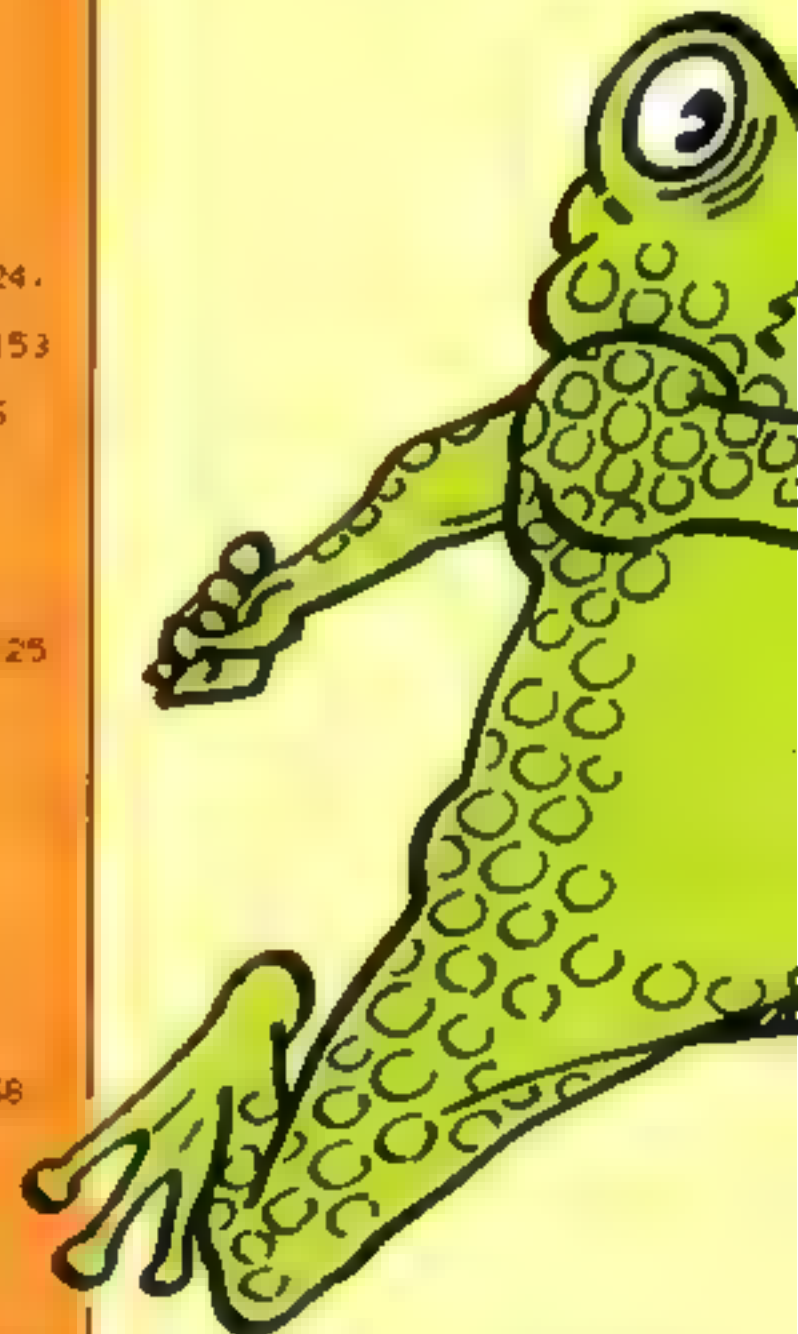
You're a frog, a hop ho

Listing 1 — defines characters and so on and must be typed in first

```

10 POKE36879,109 POKE36869,255 POKE56,28 POKE52,28
20 PRINT"***** FROG RUNNER "
30 PRINT"***** BY P. A. B. © 1984"
100 PRINT"***** PLEASE WAIT. "
110 FORT=7168T,7679
120 READA B=B+A POKE1,A NEXT
125 IFB=60777THENSTOP
130 FORT=680T,747
140 READA B=B+A POKE1,A NEXT
145 IFB=68207THENSTOP
150 FORT=300T,393
160 READA B=B+A POKE1,A NEXT
165 IFB=80675THENSTOP
500 DATA0,66,129,153,90,60,60,60,24,36,36,66,66,36,0,0,0,36,66,66,36,36,24
501 DATA60,60,60,90,153,129,66,0,48,72,7,31,31,7,72,48,0,24,100,128,128,100,24,
0
502 DATA0,24,38,1,1,38,24,0,12,18,224,248,248,224,18,12,66,153,126,60,60,90,153
129
503 DATA129,153,90,60,60,126,153,66,67,164,56,126,126,56,164,67,194,37,28,126
504 DATA126,28,37,194
505 REM FROG
510 DATA255,255,243,192,60,255,255,255,255,255,24,196,1,63,255,255
511 DATA255,255,255,243,252,255,255,255,255,255,243,192,12,63,255,255
512 DATA255,255,63,79,31,255,255,255
513 REM SNAKE
520 DATA 252,248,192,128,128,0,0,0,63,15,3,1,1,0,0,0,255,255,255,255,255,255,25
5 255
521 REM HOME
530 DATA63,83,92,139,148,83,92,63,255,51,204,51,204,51,204,255
541 DATA252,50,206,51,205,50,206,252
542 REM LOGS
540 DATA255,128,191,191,191,191,128,255,224,46,189,185,185,189,46,224
541 DATA120,51,127,206,206,127,51,120,0,142,228,63,63,228,142,0
542 DATA7,117,189,191,191,169,117,7,255,85,85,255,255,85,85,255
543 DATA7,126,243,243,243,243,126,7,248,62,231,231,231,231,62,248
544 REM TRAFFIC
550 DATA 0,0,0,153,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0
551 REM ROAD LINES
560 DATA192,144,25,19,21,11,15,7,3,9,152,200,168,200,240,224,7,3,7,13,12,56,68
0
561 DATA24,192,224,176,48,28,34,0
562 REM FROG HOME
570 DATA129,102,68,94,94,60,102,129,195,231,126,36,36,126,231,195
571 REM TURTLE/SPLAT
580 DATA0,0,68,210,110,238,255,255,255,253,190,41,52,68,0,0
581 REM OPAS
590 DATA0,151,146,146,242,146,146,151,0,87,85,85,87,84,84,116,0,0,24,24,0,24,24
0
591 REM *UP*/"HI"
600 DATA60,98,160,160,174,162,182,58,56,100,162,162,190,162,162,226
601 DATA194,162,182,170,162,162,162,226,254,162,168,184,168,160,162,254
602 REM "GAME"
610 DATA254,138,138,138,138,138,138,254,28,52,20,20,20,20,20,62
611 DATA254,10,10,254,160,160,162,254,254,138,42,58,42,10,138,254
612 DATA60,84,148,246,20,20,20,20,254,160,160,254,10,10,138,254
613 DATA254,162,160,190,162,162,162,254,254,138,18,10,10,10,10,14
614 DATA254,162,162,190,162,162,162,254,254,138,138,250,10,10,138,254
615 REM 1234567890
620 DATA56,100,162,162,162,162,100,56,226,162,162,84,84,84,40,56
621 DATA252,162,162,188,168,164,162,226
622 REM "OVER"
630 DATA129,90,44,126,44,90,129,0,128,88,44,124,44,88,128,0,128,64,32,96,32,64,
128,0
631 REM TIMER
640 DATA173,4,144,208,251,169,43,141,37,145,169,66,141,36,145,169,1,141
641 DATA94,3,120,169,3,141,21,3,169,93,141,20,3,80,96,162,0
642 DATA240,18,206,94,3,169,78,205,4,144,208,251,169,13,141,15,144
643 DATA76,21,235,169,1,141,94,3,169,109,141,15,144,76,191,234
644 REM SCREEN SPLIT
650 DATA165,1,133,251,165,2,24,185,120,133,252,162,20,160,0,177,1,72,200,177,1
136,145
651 DATA1,200,104,145,1,136,177,251,72,200,177,251,136,145,251,104,200,145,251
200,16
652 DATA226,96,165,1,133,251,145,2,24,185,128,133,252,162,20,160,20,177,1,72,20
0,177,1
653 DATA136,145,1,200,104,145,1,136,177,251,72,200,177,251,136,145,251,104,200,
145,251
654 DATA136,136,202,16,224,96
655 PRINT"*****" POKE198,10 POKE631,131 END

```



Your job is to guide the frog, using cursor keys for left and right and A and Z for up and down, through the four-lane motorway and across the river to the frog ponds beyond.

The basic rules are: avoid cars, lorries, canteens, snakes and yellow frogs; catch cyan frogs, logs and turtles. And keep moving, otherwise you will dehydrate.

There are seven levels of play. The more difficult levels have fewer logs and turtles, more traffic and faster action.

Bonuses are awarded for landing on cyan frogs (frogs on logs), landing next to yellow frogs (in ponds) and getting all five ponds filled.

You have five lives and can lose them by hitting traffic, snakes, river banks at the top, yellow frogs, wrapping around the screen, dehydrating and falling into the river.

Your status is shown on the bottom two lines: hi-score,

VIC-20 PROGRAM

score, lives and moisture left
Two features not normally found are included for ease of play.

- A carefully timed jump will clear any oncoming traffic up to

Hints on conversion

Conversion would be difficult but not impossible, given the control characters, POKE numbers and a suitable routine for scrolling the screen. The POKEs are:

646 character (cursor) colour
36878 volume
36874-36877 voices
36869,255 switches in defined characters with normal characters if reverse text is used
7680-8185 screen locations
38400-38906 equivalent colour locations
30720 difference between the above two
7168-7679 contain hi-res DATA
680-747 contain screen-split code during loading
825-895 contain screen split code after loading
300-393 contain scrolling code
1-2 contain address of line to be scrolled

␣---CLEAR SCREEN
␣---CURSOR HOME
␣---CURSOR RIGHT
␣---CURSOR LEFT
␣---CURSOR DOWN
␣---CURSOR UP
␣---NORMAL CHARS
␣---USER CHARS
␣---BLACK
␣---WHITE
␣---RED (POUND SIGN)
␣---CYAN
␣---PURPLE
␣---GREEN
␣---BLUE
␣---YELLOW

Your guide to the Commodore control characters used in the program

There are many hazards to face between you and your frog pond. Peter Berrecloth has packed a lot of features into Frog Runner

two characters long

- The snake will not notice you unless you move, but don't stay still for too long. Keep an eye on the timer.

As expected, a game such as this requires lots of those dreaded DATA statements. These are included in a separate program which must be LOADED first.

A checksum is included to trap errors, but no crashes will occur with the first program anyway

How it works main program

2-3 display frog and scroll is on a log or turtle
4-5 scroll cars and logs
6-10 get key pressed
11-12 frog jump and sound
13-14 update and check timer
15-16 check for frog collisions
17-20 frog home and bonus check
21 bonus for time left
22-24 check for five frogs home and increase speed
25-26 draw snake
27-29 frog on log collision
30-32 lose a life routine
33-36 rest timer and plot random frogs
40 display score
41 countdown to start
42-48 alter layout of screen depending on level
49 relocate machine code to cassette buffer at 828 895 and start up screen-split routine
50-58 set up screen and variables
59-60 game over routine

The DATA is in three parts: user-defined characters, screen split and scroll routines. The characters are explained so that any corruption of graphics can be traced

After the first program has been RUN successfully, SAVE it to tape.

Then type in the second part. Do not RUN it yet as line 49 could cause a fatal crash.

After entering, this part must be SAVED to tape following the first part. Many lines in the program must be abbreviated (? for PRINT and so on) to enable them to be entered. Your manual explains the abbreviations of keywords.

If the LOADING is successful, GAME OVER will appear. Hit any key to start

I think this game contains enough features to keep it interesting. The level may be changed by altering X in line 1 of the main program. Try 50 if life is not too hard

Look for scores of 150,000-plus, without cheating
Happy frog running

Note: continuous RUN/STOP restoring of the program will cause errors in the machine code, so avoid this.

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Battlezone
BBC B £6.95

Superior Software, Dept C, Ground Floor, Regent House, Skinner Lane, Leeds LS7 1AX

This is the BBC version of the well known arcade game Battlezone. The graphics and nearly colourless display make the game look very similar

If you've never seen Battlezone here's a description: you are the tank gunner and you must seek out and destroy the enemy tanks. You view through your periscope and find enemy tanks on your radar. On radar the enemy tank appears to jump around — this is distracting

This game could be very good if it weren't for the distracting character, making sighting very difficult. Unlike the arcade game

the enemy is always the same, which becomes monotonous after a while

Improvements such as a high score table could improve this game, and it is unusual to find a game without one. However, the graphics are good and the game is testing. I did notice one small bug: after losing a life, a flashing line sometimes appears across the bottom of the screen. This shouldn't put anyone off

Usual superior software cover, flashy picture. Reasonable instructions, and reasonable overall. **D.B.**

instructions	80%
playability	65%
graphics	75%
value for money	75%



Positron
BBC B £6.95

Micro Power, 8/8a Regent St, Chapel Allerton, Leeds LS7 4PE

Well, once again the very old theme of Space Invaders hence no surprises. I must admit there are still plenty who want to play this type of arcade game. Just recently at a school fête one of the most popular items was the computer games and, significantly, the invader game still seemed to be raking in the money. I suspect the computer is bringing respectability to the arcade game tarnished by its association with seaside resorts and seedy amusement arcades.

So, if there's still money to be made they will still be produced. On with the game itself. This

version is very colourful and noisy. You play it from the keyboard and it's very fast. There are one or two variations, you must hit the mother ship after the final wave to be able to move on and you have no laser defences. This is no great loss.

Nice attention to detail makes this game a very good one. A high score table is included to record the top eight scores. Different invaders have imaginative names: "Spazmoid" and "Bumfluff" are two of my favourites. **M.P.**

instructions	90%
playability	80%
graphics	90%
value for money	80%



Boris in the Underworld
BBC B £6.95

Superior, Regent House, Skinner Lane, Leeds LS7 1AX

Boris is a funny looking fellow, who has had his home raided by the creatures of the underworld. They steal most of his possessions, and the unforgiving Boris decides to venture underground in the hope of retrieving his valuables.

Boris can move in four directions and has a rapid-fire laser cannon. A joystick can be used with the game, which in my view aids play. As soon as the game starts the underworld creatures start rushing towards you, and you must start firing straight away. This is nothing like a 'shoot 'em out of the sky' game, but never the less, the creatures move like those in the legendary Space Invaders. The sound is identical and the more you shoot the harder it is to outrun them. When you have finished them all off one of Boris's possessions appears on the screen.

In the later stages, indestructible discs start appearing on the screen. This considerably slows down the process of killing the undergrounders. These and the fiery walls which close in around you make the game almost impossible. **M.B.**

instructions	70%
playability	50%
graphics	60%
value for money	60%



Game for some fun?

Our panel star-rates the latest batch of games for the Beeb

Overdrive

BBC B £6.95

Superior, Regent House, Skinner Lane, Leeds LS7 1AX

It's not hard to see from the cassette inlay that this game is all about motor racing. Never having seen a racing game for the BBC, and knowing of the high standard of Superior Software products, I was eagerly looking forward to this one.

On loading, the game begins straight away. Your ultimate aim is to complete all five stages of the race and then take the world drivers' championship. To complete each stage you must finish in one of the top twelve positions, which means overtaking about 50 cars.

Your car is red, and you can accelerate, decelerate and steer

left and right

Judging from the cover I expected to be powering around bends, and overtaking cars at lightning speeds. Instead, I found myself driving along a never ending Roman road, dodging the odd car.

Overall I was extremely disappointed with this game. I know Superior can and has produced far better than this middle-of-the-road material, if you excuse the pun. This is a very drab game from a software company of whom we have come to expect more. **M.B.**

instructions	65%
playability	40%
graphics	50%
value for money	40%



Bigger
BBC B £6.95

Visions, 1 Figate Mews, Studland St, London W6 9JT

Your garden is full of pests which are more interested in eating you than the grass. Equipped with a pump you can kill the pests by giving each one three quick basis. There are two types of pests, the Red Goggle Aliens or Footas, which look like an owl, and the Green Dragons or Pubars.

You can tunnel underground, but the pests cannot. The only way they can move from tunnel to tunnel is by turning into ghosts. As the dragon moves around the tunnels it flashes for a few seconds before it breathes fire. If it is facing in your direction you will die. You can also lose a life if any of the pests catch you.

From level three onwards eight pests appear, and movement is so slow that travelling around the screen becomes a bore. From then on the difficulty never changes.

The keyboard response is sometimes terrible. I often had to press a key twice before I could make my man move.

Please remember that you can only buy this game if you have a 12 operating system. BBC owners who haven't will not be disappointed as they are not missing out on much. **M.B.**

instructions	80%
playability	40%
graphics	60%
value for money	50%





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COMPUTER AGENCIES LIMITED
29, Sun St., Hitchin, Herts. SG5 1AT

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Dragon Cruncher Dragon 32/ Tandy Colour £7.95

Elkan Electronics, 11 Bury New Rd, Prestwich, Manchester M25 8JZ

This has got to be a mutually beneficial program for these two computers. They use the same 6809 chip and this makes it easy to convert BASIC programs from one to the other, which it does quickly and efficiently. There are only a few reservations, one being that it will ignore "machine code and the contents of REM and STRINGS"

It will allow any number of programs to be converted on one loading so long as you do not RUN the program or PCLEAR

There are certainly many programs for each of the computers which can now be converted and so extend the range of available software

A simple and effective utility that may prove a saviour for the Tandy owner who feels increasingly isolated.

instructions	100%
ease of use	100%
display	N/A
value for money	80%



Minitext Dragon 32 £9.95

Microplot, 19 The Earls Croft, Cheylesmore, Coventry CV3 5ES

This is an interesting utility as it has a dual purpose to fulfil as both a text editor (or small word processor) and BASIC program manipulator. It has plenty of commands, in fact probably too many to remember. They are mainly activated by pressing the 'clear' key followed by an alphabetic key with some sort of relationship to the command desired. So, for example, C centres text, L loads or joins a file to the one currently in

There is a command for every letter key but some are unlikely

to be used regularly and are more difficult to learn. The cursor control keys have several functions including underline on the shift/cursor up which is very simple

The problem with editing BASIC programs is that you cannot test your changes without first saving, but this is to be expected from a word processor. Another thing that is difficult to get used to is that you don't need to press 'enter' after typing a line. If you do accidentally press that key during program editing real problems can result.

instructions	70%
ease of use	80%
value for money	70%



Editor/Reseq & Renum Dragon 32 £7.95

Microplot, 19 The Earls Croft, Cheylesmore, Coventry CV3 5ES

The reason for reviewing these two programs together is that Reseq/Renum is simply a subset of Editor. These are BASIC programming utilities and allow you to manipulate programs you have recorded on tape using the CSAVE command

The 'Reseq' command allows you to move chunks of program to a new position, valuable if you like to develop programs in small chunks ready for final assembly. 'Renum' can renumber selected program lines.

The full editor has further commands the most useful of which is 'Merge' which will merge and sort another program to the one already in memory. The 'Delete' command allows block deletion and a line joining facility helps to save memory. There is a global search and replace facility called 'Find' and a 'Copy' facility to save retyping commonly used lines.

Its biggest failing by far is that you cannot run the program whilst editing it. You must first save to cassette and then reload to test your alterations.

I cannot really see why anyone would buy the subset tape unless they need the extra memory it leaves (just over 1K).

instructions	80%
ease of use	70%
value for money	70%



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Autochar File TI-99/4A £4.95

Autochar File is not a game but a valuable programming aid for those who would like to devise their own games but are put off by the work involved in setting up graphics characters

On loading this program a box is depicted on screen with a black square in it. By using the direction keys you can move around in the box and print the square by pressing the number one key. If an alteration is required a square may be deleted by pressing the number zero key

In this way characters may be built up and when the desired format is achieved you simply press enter and the char code is

shown. A small diagram is also displayed showing the effect the character gives when printed across the entire screen

Additional facilities are that char codes may be saved for use at a later date, enabling the user to build an entire library of character codes.

At £4.95 I think this program is invaluable to the programmer as a great effort- and time-saving device.

instructions	90%
ease of use	100%
display	80%
value for money	90%



Music Synthesizer TI-99/4A £10

Norton, from Stainless, 10, Alstone Rd, Stockport, Cheshire SK4 5AM

This program, also available in TI BASIC, is in two parts. The first, quite large, program is the synthesizer, and the second enables you to play the music created by the first and stored on another tape as a series of data files. I don't know how it compares with the TI module which performs a similar task, but as an amateur musician who can't read a note it held my interest and taught me a thing or two — not very difficult

Having set up sharps and flats and chosen a tempo, you are presented with a fairly complex display consisting of the treble and bass staves, graphics representing musical notes and options for choosing one of three notes for the 'voice' with which you will 'draw' or play.

It is possible to create music using a score which you may have bought and to produce most necessary effects — you can even transpose a voice up or down. You can play all three voices or any one independently, and once edited to your satisfaction using the usual eight direction keys, you can store on tape

There is more to this program, and it is a very useful utility for someone who wants to produce a melody but doesn't want the chore of having to learn music in any depth.

instructions	100%
ease of use	90%
display	95%
value for money	80%





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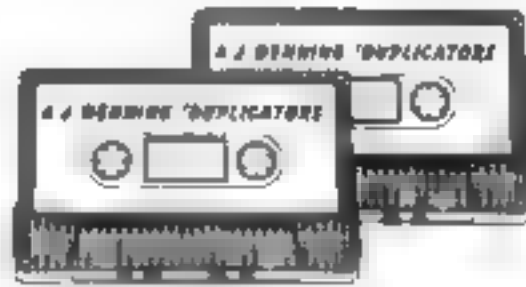
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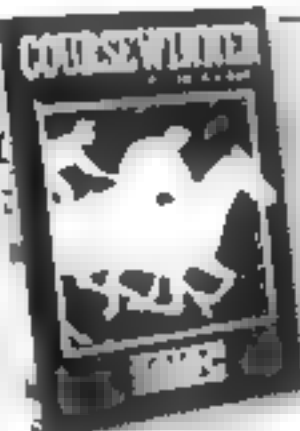
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Little Professor for the Commodore 64 utilises user-defined graphics to produce the face of the professor and provide text for the questions being set.

Sprite graphics are used to provide the title sequence and text for the mode of question set.

The menu at the start of the test allows the "pupils" the choice of 10 questions from one of four functions and nine skill levels. Three attempts at each question are allowed before the correct answer is given.

Upon completion of all 10 questions the menu gives the following options:

How it works
Main program

- 14 clear screen border/screen back
- 16 check for top of memory
- 18 initial delay
- 20 load proff data from tape as a file
- 22 load proff m/c from tape as a file
- 24 generate A\$
- 26 generate R\$
- 28 generate S\$
- 30-50 generate number strings
- 52 call m/c routine to print screen
- 54-74 check for keyboard entry for function required
- 78-86 store sprite character set for function set
- 88-94 check for keyboard entry for skill level
- 102 set initial variables
- 104 cal. range of number and screen offset
- 106-116 calculate question and answer
- 118 check for ten answered questions
- 120 cal length of answer and line length
- 122 m/c routine to clear working area of screen and text for function set
- 128 set variables
- 130-134 print X
- 142-146 print Y
- 148 print line
- 156 clear keyboard buffer
- 158-172 check for keyboard entry
- 160 if DEL then delete one character
- 162 if RETURN then execute SUM
- 170 print keyboard entry
- 182 cal SUM of entered answer
- 184 check for accuracy
- 186-200 execute correct procedure
- 208-226 error routine if less than 3 incorrect
- 228-248 error routine if 3 incorrect
- 256-264 recall author's name and print
- 266-290 print result of test
- 292-310 print text for end of test sequence
- 312-330 check for keyboard entry
- 332 check for F1
- 334 check for F3
- 336-340 end of test
- 342-350 set up for re-test

Variables
Data File

- A read data
- I total of data statements read
- SUM sum of data statements read
- A\$ keyboard entry

- F1 further tests on same function
- F3 change function and/or skill level
- F7 select end of test

Answers should be made to each question in the same manner as "pupils" would enter them in text books. These are from right to left as units, tens, hundreds etc. Should an incorrect entry be made, the number can be deleted by pressing the DEL key and the solution to the sum is made by pressing the RETURN key.

As a hint to the solution to the correct answer the length of line under the lower figure is adjusted for each question. Also the maximum number of figures is always one greater than the correct solution.

This game is for two players, each of whom is in charge of a gun. The guns are on opposite sides of the screen, generally with some interesting terrain between them, and each player is trying to hit the other player's gun.

Before the missile can be fired the player must decide how much powder to put in the gun, and what angle to fire at.

There is rather a lot of thought involved in the game: random shots are extremely unlikely to succeed. If there is a high hill between the guns the shots must be fired at a very steep angle (perhaps as steep as 80 degrees), and so will need a lot of powder to carry them any horizontal distance.

If one of the guns is higher than the other, the two players have completely different problems to solve. And both players must take account of the wind, which varies from shot to shot, and which can have quite a strong effect on the missiles.

Even once you become good at judging roughly what angle and powder to use, you will find that in each game you have to use a refinement technique for your shots.

Remember the wind strength on your previous shot, and what angle and powder you used, and where the shot landed, then use all of this information, along with the current wind speed, to try to get closer this time. So the game involves memory as well as mental computation or guessing.

LEARN THE LITTLE PROFESSOR

Little Professor DATA file

```

10 REM ***** LITTLE PROFESSOR DATA FILE *****
12
14 FOR I=1 TO 10
16   FOR J=1 TO 10
18     OPEN "DATA" FOR INPUT AS #1
20     PRINT #1
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882    PRINT #1
884    PRINT #1
886    PRINT #1
888    PRINT #1
890    PRINT #1
892    PRINT #1
894    PRINT #1
896    PRINT #1
898    PRINT #1
900    PRINT #1
902    PRINT #1
904    PRINT #1
906    PRINT #1
908    PRINT #1
910    PRINT #1
912    PRINT #1
914    PRINT #1
916    PRINT #1
918    PRINT #1
920    PRINT #1
922    PRINT #1
924    PRINT #1
926    PRINT #1
928    PRINT #1
930    PRINT #1
932    PRINT #1
934    PRINT #1
936    PRINT #1
938    PRINT #1
940    PRINT #1
942    PRINT #1
944    PRINT #1
946    PRINT #1
948    PRINT #1
950    PRINT #1
952    PRINT #1
954    PRINT #1
956    PRINT #1
958    PRINT #1
960    PRINT #1
962    PRINT #1
964    PRINT #1
966    PRINT #1
968    PRINT #1
970    PRINT #1
972    PRINT #1
974    PRINT #1
976    PRINT #1
978    PRINT #1
980    PRINT #1
982    PRINT #1
984    PRINT #1
986    PRINT #1
988    PRINT #1
990    PRINT #1
992    PRINT #1
994    PRINT #1
996    PRINT #1
998    PRINT #1
1000   PRINT #1

```


COMMODORE 64 PROGRAM

Little Professor main program

```

100 REM ***** LITTLE PROFESSOR MAIN PROGRAM *****
110 PRINT "LITTLE PROFESSOR"
120 PRINT "VERSION 1.0"
130 PRINT "BY: [NAME]"
140 PRINT "DATE: [DATE]"
150 PRINT "*****"
160 REM ***** WELCOME MESSAGE *****
170 PRINT "WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF LITTLE PROFESSOR"
180 PRINT "HERE YOU WILL LEARN THE SECRETS OF THE COMMODORE 64"
190 PRINT "AND HOW TO USE THE POWER OF THE KEYBOARD"
200 PRINT "*****"
210 REM ***** MAIN MENU *****
220 PRINT "MAIN MENU"
230 PRINT "1. START PROGRAM"
240 PRINT "2. ABOUT PROGRAM"
250 PRINT "3. HELP"
260 PRINT "4. QUIT"
270 PRINT "*****"
280 REM ***** GET USER CHOICE *****
290 PRINT "ENTER YOUR CHOICE (1-4):"
300 INPUT CHOICE
310 REM ***** PROCESS CHOICE *****
320 IF CHOICE = 1 THEN GOTO 330
330 REM ***** START PROGRAM *****
340 PRINT "*****"
350 REM ***** ABOUT PROGRAM *****
360 PRINT "*****"
370 REM ***** HELP *****
380 PRINT "*****"
390 REM ***** QUIT *****
395 GOTO 400
400 PRINT "*****"
405 REM ***** END OF PROGRAM *****
410 PRINT "*****"
415 PRINT "THANK YOU FOR PLAYING LITTLE PROFESSOR"
420 PRINT "*****"
425 PRINT "BYE-BYE"
430 GOTO 440
440 PRINT "*****"

```

```

400 SYS 250000
405 PRINT "*****"
410 PRINT "*****"
415 PRINT "*****"
420 PRINT "*****"
425 PRINT "*****"
430 PRINT "*****"
435 PRINT "*****"
440 PRINT "*****"
445 PRINT "*****"
450 PRINT "*****"
455 PRINT "*****"
460 PRINT "*****"
465 PRINT "*****"
470 PRINT "*****"
475 PRINT "*****"
480 PRINT "*****"
485 PRINT "*****"
490 PRINT "*****"
495 PRINT "*****"
500 PRINT "*****"
505 PRINT "*****"
510 PRINT "*****"
515 PRINT "*****"
520 PRINT "*****"
525 PRINT "*****"
530 PRINT "*****"
535 PRINT "*****"
540 PRINT "*****"
545 PRINT "*****"
550 PRINT "*****"
555 PRINT "*****"
560 PRINT "*****"
565 PRINT "*****"
570 PRINT "*****"
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580 PRINT "*****"
585 PRINT "*****"
590 PRINT "*****"
595 PRINT "*****"
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635 PRINT "*****"
640 PRINT "*****"
645 PRINT "*****"
650 PRINT "*****"
655 PRINT "*****"
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665 PRINT "*****"
670 PRINT "*****"
675 PRINT "*****"
680 PRINT "*****"
685 PRINT "*****"
690 PRINT "*****"
695 PRINT "*****"
700 PRINT "*****"
705 PRINT "*****"
710 PRINT "*****"
715 PRINT "*****"
720 PRINT "*****"
725 PRINT "*****"
730 PRINT "*****"
735 PRINT "*****"
740 PRINT "*****"
745 PRINT "*****"
750 PRINT "*****"
755 PRINT "*****"
760 PRINT "*****"
765 PRINT "*****"
770 PRINT "*****"
775 PRINT "*****"
780 PRINT "*****"
785 PRINT "*****"
790 PRINT "*****"
795 PRINT "*****"
800 PRINT "*****"
805 PRINT "*****"
810 PRINT "*****"
815 PRINT "*****"
820 PRINT "*****"
825 PRINT "*****"
830 PRINT "*****"
835 PRINT "*****"
840 PRINT "*****"
845 PRINT "*****"
850 PRINT "*****"
855 PRINT "*****"
860 PRINT "*****"
865 PRINT "*****"
870 PRINT "*****"
875 PRINT "*****"
880 PRINT "*****"
885 PRINT "*****"
890 PRINT "*****"
895 PRINT "*****"
900 PRINT "*****"
905 PRINT "*****"
910 PRINT "*****"
915 PRINT "*****"
920 PRINT "*****"
925 PRINT "*****"
930 PRINT "*****"
935 PRINT "*****"
940 PRINT "*****"
945 PRINT "*****"
950 PRINT "*****"
955 PRINT "*****"
960 PRINT "*****"
965 PRINT "*****"
970 PRINT "*****"
975 PRINT "*****"
980 PRINT "*****"
985 PRINT "*****"
990 PRINT "*****"
995 PRINT "*****"

```



Landspeed by Ian Andrews

This program puts you in the cockpit of a jet powered car, attempting to break the land speed record

After the Instructions, your view through the windscreen is drawn along with the day's conditions

The thermometer is important, as low temperatures cause the speed of sound to fall, and your vehicle has not been designed to withstand sonic shock waves.

Pressing t displays tomorrow's conditions, but your sponsors will send you a prompting Telemessage if you delay your attempt too many days.

How it works

25-45 title page
65-70 graphics character data list
100-130 POKE graphics data
227-420 instructions
500-850 drawing view from cockpit
860-1060 drawing thermometer etc
1080-1090 set conditions variables
1095-1142 print in track conditions values
1144-1163 telemmessage
1180-1540 draw facia
1700-2007 preparations for run "whine" etc
2020 start loop line
2050 exceed speed of sound check line
2500-2580 track lines
2521-2522 off track check
2629-2645 timing for flying mile
3010-3025 accelerating
3030-3100 speedometer needle
4000-4200 crash routine
5000-5030 finish results routine
5035-5120 records and drivers of the past
5130-5180 national anthem
9990-9997 returning routine

When y is pressed the facia is drawn complete with analogue and digital speedometers, odometers and measured mile start and finish indicators.

After the turbine has reached top speed, use o to accelerate, p and q to steer.

Listing for Landspeed

```

1 REM SAVE "landspeed": REM 12/4/84 Ian Andrews
5 RANDOMIZE
10 BRIGHT 0: PAPER 7: CLS
20 INK 2: PAPER 6: OVER 0: BRIGHT 0: BORDER 7: FLASH 0
25 INPUT ""
30 PRINT "
31 PRINT "
32 PRINT "
33 PRINT "
34 PRINT "
35 PRINT "
36 PRINT "
37 PRINT "
38 PRINT "
40 PRINT AT 13,0: FLASH 1:"BREAK THE WORLD"
45 PRINT FLASH 1:"LAND SPEED RECORD."
65 REM Set Graphics ABCDE
66 DATA 0,60,126,126,126,126,60,0
67 DATA 120,252,252,252,252,252,252,120
68 DATA 72,72,72,72,79,72,72,72
69 DATA 60,31,15,135,207,255,126,60
70 DATA 0,0,255,255,255,255,0,0
80 FOR x=0 TO 245
81 IF x>20 THEN PLOT INK 7:x-19,5
85 PLOT INK 6:x,5
90 PLOT x+1,5: DRAW INK 1:2,0
87 NEXT x

```

Now up your
SPECTRUM,
Right on
Sawing
code!

```

100 FOR n=0 TO 39
110 READ data
120 POKE USR "A"+n,data
130 NEXT n
190 INK 4: PAPER 0: OVER 0: BRIGHT 0: BORDER 0: FLASH 0: CLS
227 REM Instructions
228 PRINT AT 0,9: INVERSE 1:" LANDSPEED "
22 PRINT ""
230 PRINT "      You are at the controls of"
240 PRINT "the Fastest land vehicle ever."
250 PRINT "Ahead is the cleared track,"
260 PRINT "the Front of your car, and"
270 PRINT "the distant horizon."
280 PRINT "First you see the day's weather"
290 PRINT "etc. You can choose to run Today"
300 PRINT "or the next, but remember your"
310 PRINT "Sponsors have limited finance "
320 PRINT ""
330 PRINT "When you decide to run,"
340 PRINT "(L) steers you to the Left"
350 PRINT "(R) steers you to the Right"
360 PRINT "(O) is the Throttle (on)"
370 PRINT ""
380 PRINT "Two Lights show when you pass"
390 PRINT "the Timing Markers."
400 PRINT "Your Speed is shown at the end."
410 PRINT INVERSE 1:" Press any key to Start "
420 PAUSE 0

```

Smell the tyres burning as you try for the land speed record. Something's fishy. Keep the crafty cats from your dustbins

PROGRAMS

If you finish your run without straying over the track lines, your average speed is displayed, together with any past record you may have broken.

Variables

f final average speed (mph)
 s velocity (mph)
 d distance travelled (miles)
 t time (hours)
 day day number
 w cross wind (knots)
 h temperature (°C)
 ss speed of sound (mph)
 v engine power factor
 spon limit on day before Telemessage
 x, y speedometer needle coords
 xo,xa,etc track lines x coordinates
 yo,yr,etc track lines y coordinates
 era siren flag
 i,j,i1,i2,j2 screen drawing variables
 a angle in radians

It's a dog's life by Andrew Munn

The alley cats are giving Rex the Red Setter a headache. They can smell the fish in the dustbins and are frantic to eat it.

Rex's owner hates cats (as does Rex) and has told him to keep the cats off the garden wall. He will get a bone for each cat he stops from reaching the wall.

How it works

1-90 sets up variables (skill level etc)
 100-190 draws game
 200-370 cat movements (main loop)
 400-460 dog movement
 500-630 selects correct dog
 700-740 turns cat back
 7000-7030 instructions
 8000-8550 music (how much is that doggy and what's new passycat)
 9000-9090 graphics

The cats are not easily put off, however. They know that once they reach the garden wall they can eat the fish they have found in the dustbin.

Help Rex fight off the marauding cats, and give the dog a bone.

Variables

level skill level
 fish score to cat
 bones score to dog
 x,y position of dog
 dSoSp\$ dog on screen
 Dim a 20 dustbin positions
 Dim b duplicate dustbin hamiltonator
 c vertical cat position
 s data for dustbin
 t which dustbin
 m counter

```

500 REM Screen Drawing
501 BORDER 3
502 PAPER 5: CLS
503 PAPER 7: FOR j=9 TO 13
504 PRINT AT j,0: "
505 REM bonnet
507 INK 4
510 FOR j=1 TO 19
520 LET i1=j+127/40
530 LET i2=255-i1
540 LET j2=j+62
550 PLOT 0,j2
560 DRAW i2,0
570 NEXT j
580 REM fuselage
600 FOR a=-PI/18 TO PI/2 STEP .03
610 LET i=38*COS (a)
620 LET j=38*SIN (a)
630 PLOT 40,i2
640 DRAW i,j
650 DRAW -(40+38*COS (a)),i2
660 NEXT a
670 REM horizon
680 INK 1
690 FOR j=72 TO 254 STEP 2
700 LET j=RND*(1/100)+488 (81N ((1+38)/50))*5
710 PLOT i,104
720 DRAW 0,j
725 PLOT i+1,104
730 DRAW 0,j
730 NEXT i
740 REM Border
797 INK 3
800 FOR a=0 TO PI/2 STEP .02
810 LET i=50-(50*COS (a))
820 LET j=125+(50*SIN (a))
830 PLOT 255,j
840 DRAW -i,j,0
850 NEXT a
860 REM Track Conditions
865 LET spon=RND*6+4
870 BRIGHT 0: INK 1: BORDER 3: INPUT "": PAPER 7
880 FOR j=21 TO 14 STEP -1
890 PRINT AT j,0: BRIGHT 0: "
900 NEXT j
910 FOR j=15 TO 20
920 PRINT AT j,3: INK 2: "G": INT ((20-j)*20/11)+1: REM G
925 NEXT j
930 PRINT AT 21,3: "G": REM G
940 CIRCLE 80,50,8: CIRCLE 120,50,8
950 PLOT 80,50: DRAW 24,0
960 PLOT 100,50: DRAW 0,-20
970 FOR j=10 TO 20
975 PAPER 4
980 PRINT AT j,10: "
990 NEXT j
1000 PRINT AT 10,11: INK 6: "Wind"
1005 PRINT AT 20,11: INK 6: "kts"
1005 PAPER 7: INK 1
1010 PRINT AT 15,20: "QEEEE": REM G
1020 PRINT AT 16,10: "Mechanic's"
1030 PRINT AT 17,10: "Reports-"
1040 PRINT AT 19,10: "Engine on"
1060 PRINT AT 21,10: "Power"
1000 REM Conditions Variables
1001 LET day=0: REM Restart
1002 LET day=day+1
1003 LET w=RND*(.2)-.1
1004 LET h=RND*70+20
1005 LET ss=660+h
1006 LET v=75-RND*50
1000 LET era=0
1005 INK 2
1007 PLOT INK 7:26,0
1008 DRAW OVER 1:0,50: DRAW OVER 1:1,0: DRAW INF 7:0,-50
1100 PLOT 26,0
1110 DRAW 0,h*4/10+5: DRAW 1,0: DRAW 0,-(h*4/10+5)
1115 PRINT AT 19,11: PAPER 4: "
1120 PRINT AT 19,11: ABS (INT (w*500)/1)
1125 PRINT AT 20,10: "
1130 PRINT AT 20,10: INT (v/75*100)/1: "%"
1140 PRINT AT 0,10: PAPER 5: "
1142 IF day spon THEN INPUT "": PRINT EB: "Press (Y for (1) tomorrow: G) TO (16)
5
1144 FOR n=1 TO 25
1146 BEEP INT (RND*2+1)/15,35
1147 NEXT n
1148 INK 1: PAPER 6: PRINT AT 14,0: ""
1149 FOR j=14 TO 21
1150 PRINT "
1151 NEXT j
1152 PRINT AT 14,0: INVERSE 1: "TELEMESSAGE"

```

SPECTRUM PROGRAMS

```

1153 PRINT ""
1154 PRINT TAB 5;"MUST RUN TODAY"
1155 PRINT TAB 5;"NO MORE FUNDS."
1156 PRINT ""
1158 PRINT TAB 14;"MONOGRAM SERVICES"
1160 FOR n=1 TO 25: BEEP INT (RND*2+1./15,35) NEXT n
1163 GO TO 1200
1165 IF INKEY$="y" THEN GO TO 1200
1170 IF INKEY$="t" THEN GO TO 1082
1180 GO TO 1165
1200 PAPER 3
1205 INPUT ""
1210 FOR j=21 TO 14 STEP -7
1220 PRINT AT j,0;"
1230 NEXT j
1350 REM Facia
1360 PRINT AT 15,0; INK 6;"1stMkr"
1370 PRINT AT 17,0; INK 6;"2ndMkr"
1400 REM clock
1405 LET n=-2
1410 INK 6
1420 FOR a=PI*4/3 TO -PI/3 STEP -PI/3
1430 LET n=n+2
1440 LET i=16+4*COB a
1450 LET j=21-(4+4*SIN a)
1460 PRINT AT j,i;"
1470 NEXT a
1480 CIRCLE 130,35,26
1490 PLOT 130,35
1500 DRAW 25*COB 4,189,25*SIN 4,189
1510 PRINT AT 17,16;"0" REM B
1530 PRINT AT 17,25;"m/s"
1540 PRINT AT 19,25;"mph"
1700 REM Whine
1710 FOR n=25 TO 35 STEP .18
1730 BEEP n/1000,n
1740 NEXT n
1750 PRINT 10; FLASH 1;"MAX RPM"
1760 BEEP 3,n
1770 INPUT ""
2005 LET xo=0: LET yo=0: LET n=0: LET xa=125: LET xlo=0: LET ylo=0: LET xro=0: L
ET yro=0: LET t=0: LET s=.0020001
2007 INK 0: PAPER 7
2020 IF INKEY$="q" THEN LET xa=xa-s/7
2030 IF INKEY$="p" THEN LET xa=xa+s/7
2040 LET xa=xa+(n*s)/1
2050 IF d>=s THEN BEEP .3,-30: BEEP .1,69: BEEP .3,-30: GO TO 4000
2500 REM Track Lines
2505 PAPER 4: INK 4
2510 LET xl=(25-xa)*1.5
2520 LET xr=(225-xa)*1.5
2521 IF xl>135 THEN GO TO 4000
2522 IF xr<115 THEN GO TO 4000
2525 LET yr=-22: LET yl=-22
2530 IF xl<=22 THEN LET yl=-((42-((70-xl)/(125-xl))*42)): LET xlo=-46
2535 IF xl>22 THEN LET xlo=-((125-xl)*28/42)
2540 IF xr>=257 THEN LET yr=-42+((42*(xr-255)/255)): LET xro=130
2541 IF xr<=255 THEN LET xro=((xr-125)*28/42)
2542 PLOT 125,104
2544 DRAW OVER 1;xlo,ylo
2546 PLOT 125,104
2548 DRAW OVER 1;xro,yro
2550 PLOT 125,104
2560 DRAW xlo,yl
2570 PLOT 125,104
2580 DRAW xro,yr
2590 LET xlo=xlo: LET xro=xro
2600 LET ylo=ylo: LET yro=yro
2610 LET t=t+.0001
2620 LET d=(s*t)
2625 PRINT AT 16,25; INK 6; PAPER 1; INT (d/1)*1
2627 PRINT AT 16,25; INK 6; PAPER 1; INT (s/1)*1
2628 IF d<5 THEN GO TO 2650
2629 REM Timing
2630 IF d<6 THEN LET f=s
2635 IF d>6 THEN PRINT AT 15,6; INK 7; BRIGHT 1;"0": REM G
2640 IF d>6 AND d<7 THEN LET f=(f+s)/2
2642 IF d>7 THEN PRINT AT 17,6; INK 7; BRIGHT 1;"0": REM G
2644 IF d>7.2 THEN PRINT AT 21,0; FLASH 1; INK 2;"BRAKE CHUTE AWAY"
2645 IF d>7.5 THEN GO TO 5000
2650 IF INKEY$="o" THEN GO TO 3010
3000 GO TO 2020
3010 REM Accelerate
3015 PAPER 3; INK 6
3020 LET n=n+2: LET s=v*SQR (n+.0001)
3025 LET t=t+.0001
3030 PLOT 130,35
3040 DRAW OVER 1;x0,y0
3050 LET x=23*COB (4,189*(1-s/800))
3060 LET y=23*SIN (4,189*(1-s/800))
3070 PLOT 130,35
3080 DRAW x,y

```

```

3090 LET xo=x: LET yo=y
3100 GO TO 2010
4000 REM Crash
4010 PAPER 6: INK 2: BRIGHT 1: FLASH 1: OVER 0 BORDER 2
4020 PRINT AT 15,5;"YOU CRASHED AT ";INT (s/1)*1;" MPH"
4050 PRINT AT 16,5;"BECAUSE YOUR CAR LEFT"
4060 PRINT AT 17,5;"THE CLEARED TRACK"
4130 IF s<=s THEN GO TO 4170
4140 PRINT AT 16,5;"BECAUSE YOUR CAR EXCEEDED"
4150 PRINT AT 17,5;"THE SPEED OF SOUND"
4170 FOR n=1 TO 35
4180 BEEP .03,RND*99-30
4185 NEXT n
4190 FLASH 0
4195 LET cra=1
4200 GO TO 9990

```

```

5000 REM Results
5010 BORDER 5: PAPER 5: INK 0: BRIGHT 1
5020 PRINT AT 15,2;"YOUR AVERAGE SPEED OVER THE"
5030 PRINT AT 16,2;"FLYING MILE WAS ";INT (f/.01)*.01;" MPH"
5035 REM Past Records
5040 IF f>381.13 THEN PRINT AT 18,0;"WHICH EXCEEDS"
5050 IF f>381.13 THEN PRINT AT 19,2;"381.13mph -M.Campbell (GB)"
5060 IF f>369.74 THEN PRINT AT 19,2;"369.74mph -J.Cobb (GB)"
5070 IF f>403.10 THEN PRINT AT 19,2;"403.10mph -D.Campbell (GB)"
5080 IF f>576.55 THEN PRINT AT 19,2;"576.55mph -A.Arfovs (USA)"
5090 IF f>600.60 THEN PRINT AT 19,2;"600.60mph -C.Breedlove (USA)"
5100 IF f>622.4 THEN PRINT AT 19,2;"622.41mph -G.Gabelich (USA)"
5105 IF f<633.468 THEN GO TO 9990
5110 PRINT AT 19,2;"633.468mph -R.Noble (GB)"
5130 RESTORE 5140
5140 DATA 7.6,7.6,9.6,6.9,7.3,9.6,11.6,11.6,12.6,11.9,9.3,7.6,9.6,
7.6,6.6,7.6,7.6,7.6
5150 FOR n=1 TO 10
5160 READ d
5170 BEEP d-INT d,INT d

```

```

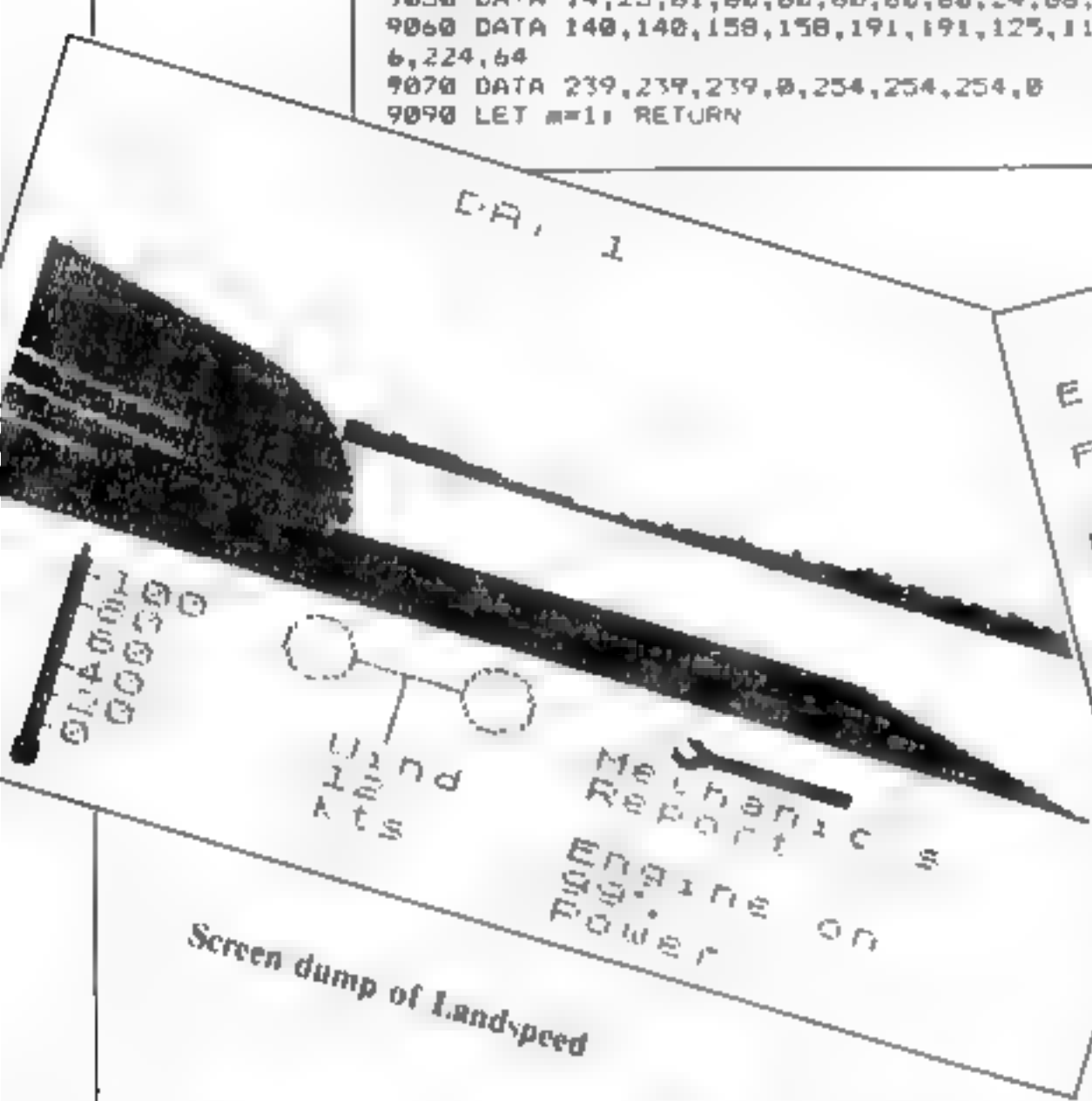
5180 NEXT n
9990 PRINT 10;"Press C to Restart"
9991 INK 4: PLOT 125,104: DRAW OVER 1;xlo,ylo
9992 PLOT 125,104: DRAW OVER 1;xro,yro
9993 IF INKEY$="c" THEN GO TO 860
9994 IF cra=1 THEN BEEP .5,15: BEEP .5,1" 5
9997 GO TO 9993

```

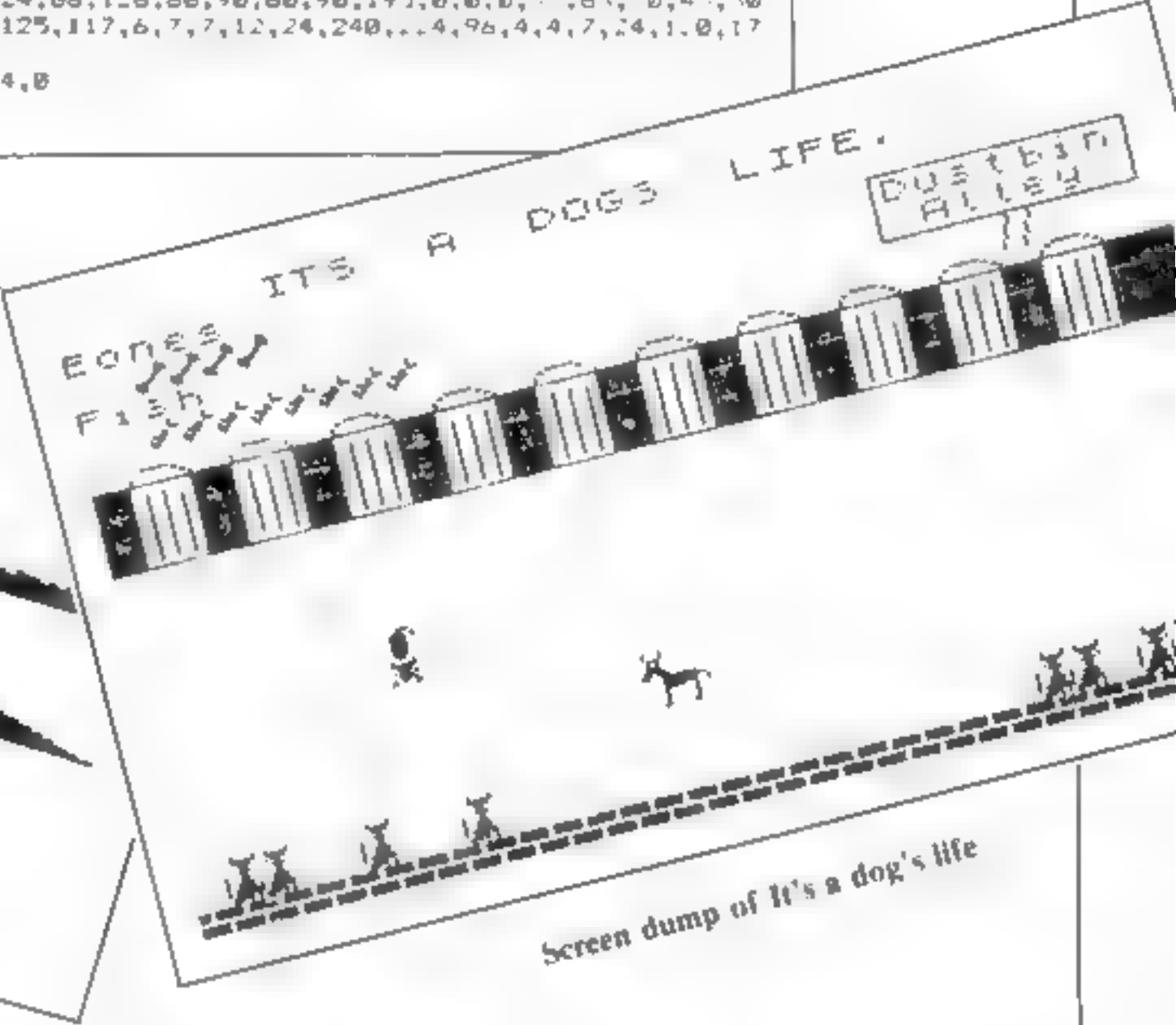

SPECTRUM PROGRAMS

```

9000 FOR f=144 TO 162: FOR n=0 TO 7: READ a: POKE USR (CHR$ +f)+n, a: NEXT n: NEX
T f
9010 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,31,34,34,28,28,28,62,119,226,68,68,56,40,56,124,238,71
9020 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,248,127,159,155,48,37,229,172,6,2,4,224,240,40,200,4,4,6
9030 DATA 7,7,15,20,19,32,32,96,254,249,217,20,164,167,33,96,177,159,147,6,16,1
6,16,24
9040 DATA 224,224,224,32,32,32,32,48,7,7,7,4,4,4,4,12,254,249,201,8,8,8,8,24
9050 DATA 14,25,61,68,68,68,68,68,24,66,126,68,90,68,90,195,0,0,0,17,67,0,45,70
9060 DATA 140,140,158,158,191,191,125,117,6,7,7,12,24,240,4,96,4,4,7,24,1,0,17
6,224,64
9070 DATA 239,239,239,0,254,254,254,0
9090 LET n=1: RETURN
    
```



Screen dump of Land-speed



Screen dump of It's a dog's life

ADMAN

ELECTRONICS

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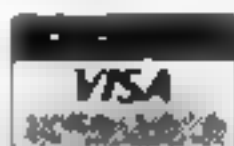
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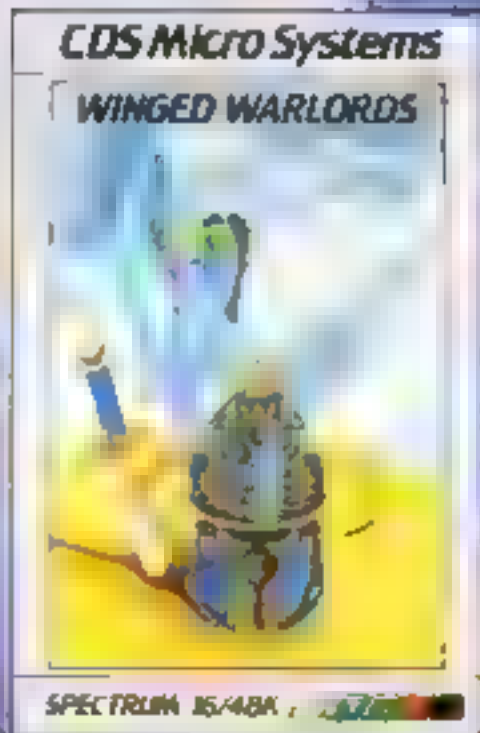
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5	Flight Path 757	Anirog	CBM 64 (-)
6	Space Pilot	Anirog	CBM 64 (7)
7	Code Name MAT	Micromega	Spectrum (8)
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4	Heroes of Khan	Interceptor	CBM 64 (-)
5	The Forest	Phlips	Spectrum (-)
6	Fall of Rome	APS	BBC (-)
7	Transylvanian Tower	Richard Shepherd	Spectrum (-)
8	The Collector	Abraxo	CBM 64 (-)
9	Quest of Merravid	Martec	VIC-20 (-)
10	The Valley	APS	Spectrum (3)

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1	Jet Set Willy	Software Projects (1)
2	Scuba Dive	Durrell (-)
3	Atic Atac	Ultimate (8)
4	Blue Thunder	Richard Wilcox (-)
5	Hunchback	Ocean (7)
6	Pogo	Micromega (3)
7	Codename MAT	Digital (2)
8	Night Gunner	Sinclair (10)
9	Chequered Flag	Software Projects (4)
10	Manic Miner	Software Projects (4)

COMMODORE 64

1	Hunchback	Ocean (5)
2	Colossus Chess	CDS (10)
3	Mr Wimpey	Thorn (-)
4	Slurpy	Thorn (-)
5	Space Shuttle	Microdeal (1)
6	It's Only Rock n' Roll	K-tel (-)
7	Falcon Patrol	Virgin (-)
8	Dragonfly 2	105.A.S. (-)
9	Dragonfly 2	105.A.S. (-)
10	Dragonfly 2	105.A.S. (-)

DRAGON 32

1	Bright Ball	Microdeal (8)
2	Churchie Egg	A & F (3)
3	Hungry Horace	Meibourne House (2)
4	Ugh!	Softek (4)
5	Kriegspiel	Beyond (7)
6	Frogger	Microdeal (10)
7	Dragonfly 2	Imagine (5)
8	Dragonfly 2	Imagine (5)
9	Dragonfly 2	Hewson (-)
10	Dragonfly 2	Peaksoft (-)

Compiled by W. H. Smith and Websters. Figures in brackets are last week's positions.

VIC-20

1	Flight 015	Ferranti Davenport (3)
2	Sub Commander	Thorn EMI (4)
3	Tank Commander	Thorn EMI (-)
4	Tower of Evil	Thorn EMI (-)
5	Crazy Kong	Visions (1)
6	Gridrunner	Interceptor (2)
7	M.L.B.A.T.E.T.	Llamosoft (10)
8	Jet Pac	Thorn (-)
9	Jet Pac	Ultimate (8)
10	Jet Pac	Ultimate (8)

BBC

1	Demolator	Visions (1)
2	20 Man	MRM (3)
3	30 Man's Brother	MRM (3)
4	Chess	BBC (-)
5	Diamond Mine	Precision (5)
6	Killer Gorilla	Simon Hessel (-)
7	GB Ltd	Doctor Soft (10)
8	Felix in the Factory	Micro Power (-)
9	Felix in the Factory	Micro Power (-)
10	Felix in the Factory	Micro Power (-)

ZX81

1	Krazy Kong	PSS (-)
2	Skramble	Sinclair (10)
3	Football Manager	Quicksilver (4)
4	Flight Simulation	Addictive (5)
5	Space Raiders	Sinclair (3)
6	Space Raiders	Sinclair (2)
7	Space Raiders	Sinclair (7)
8	Defenders	Quicksilver (9)
9	Invaders	Quicksilver (8)
10	Asteroids	Quicksilver (6)

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200 HE+ 2
210 JOT 250
220 FOR T=0 TO 250 STEP 10
230 ALL = 0
240 FOR I=0 TO 240
250 T=0
260 J=0
270 FOR K=0 TO 240
280 HE=0
290 FOR L=0 TO 240
300 HE=0
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980 HE=0
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1000 FOR AV=0 TO 240
1010 HE=0
1020 FOR AW=0 TO 240
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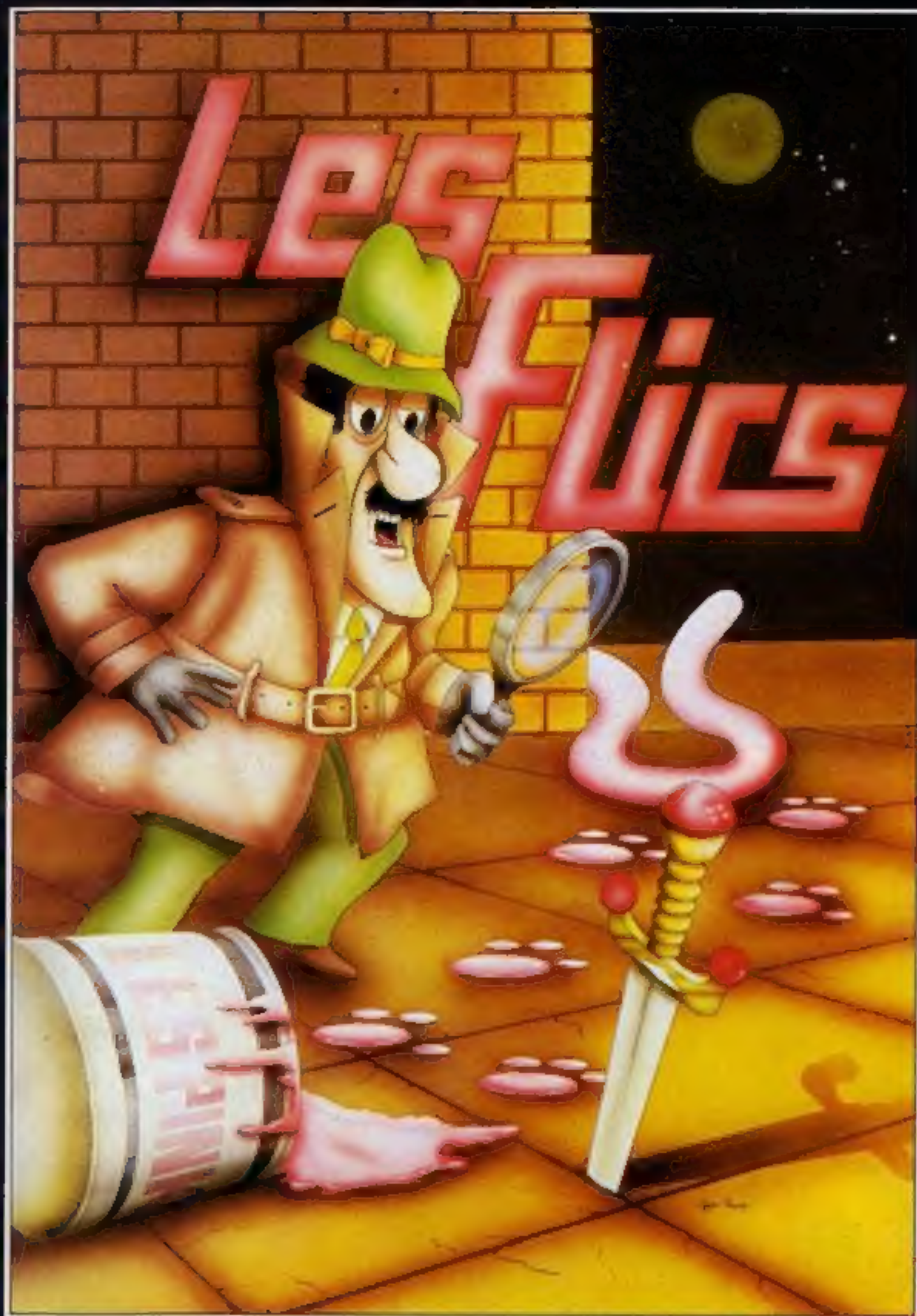
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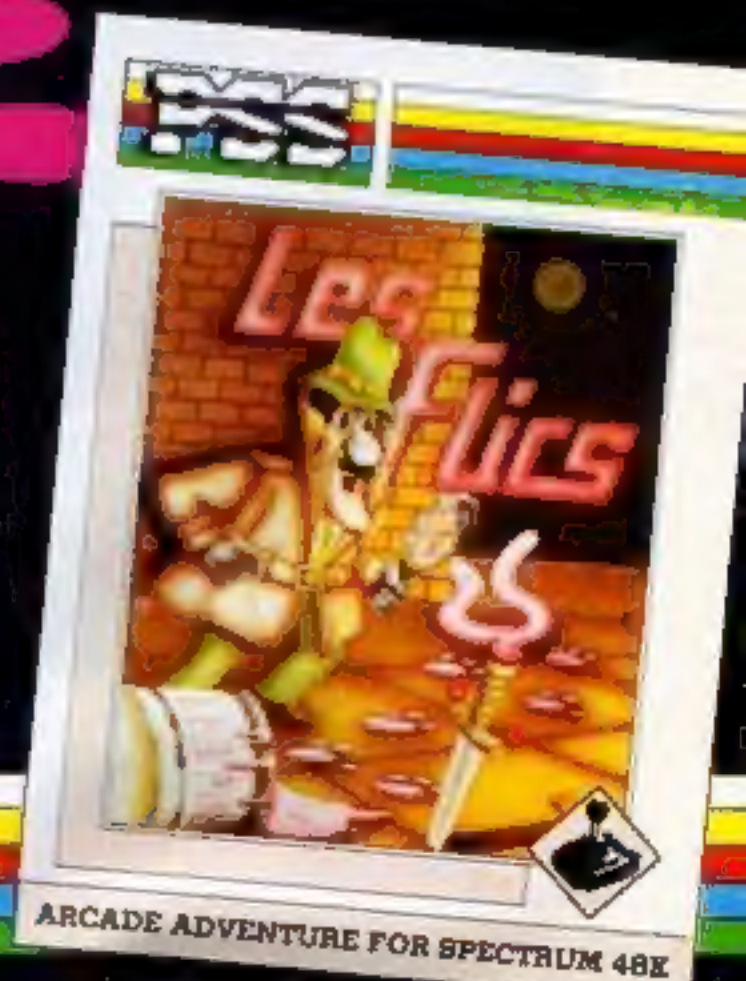
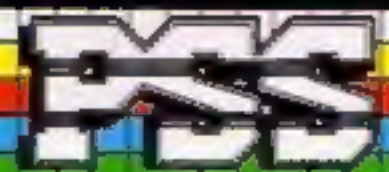
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